

Syllabus for How to Read a Book

How to Read a Book: The Classic Guide to Intelligent Reading by Mortimer J. Adler & Charles Van Doren

Assignments:

Week 1

- Read Chapter 4: The Second Level of Reading.
- Discuss Chapter 4 with teacher and make sure you understand how to read at this level.
- Pre-read How to Read a Book. Follow the instructions in Chapter 4 for Inspectional Reading I.

Weeks 2-8

- Complete a "Superficial Read" of How to read a book. Follow the instructions in Chapter 4 for Inspectional Reading II. Push yourself and read the entire book as quickly as you can! Record your reading time and pages each day to see how fast you are reading.

Week 9

- Read the introduction of Appendix B and complete the exercises and tests for Elementary Reading (pp. 358-370). Grade your work and go over it with your teacher.

Week 10

- Complete the exercises and tests for Inspectional Reading (pp. 371-399). Grade your work and go over it with your teacher.

Week 11

- Read Chapter 5: How to Be a Demanding Reader. As you read the rest of the book, follow the instructions in Chapter 5 about writing in your book and taking notes.
- Read Chapters 1-2

Week 12

- Read Chapter 3.
- Quickly glance over Chapters 4 and 5 again to make sure you understand them. Write in your book and make notes on these if you have not.
- Read Chapter 6 and complete the directions given for analytical reading on this book.

Week 13

- Read Chapter 7 and complete the directions given for analytical reading on this book.
- Read Chapter 8 and complete the directions given for analytical reading on this book.

Week 14

- Read Chapter 9 and complete the directions given for analytical reading on this book.

- Read Chapter 10 and complete the directions given for analytical reading on this book.

Week 15

- Read Chapter 11 and complete the directions given for analytical reading on this book.
- Read Chapter 12 and complete the directions given for analytical reading on this book.

Week 16

- As you read the rest of the book, keep in mind the objectives for analytical reading and continue to complete them.
- Read Chapter 13
- Read Chapter 14
- Read Chapter 15

Week 17

- Read Chapter 16
- Read Chapter 17
- Read Chapter 18

Week 18

- Read Chapter 19
- Read Chapter 20
- Read Chapter 21

Week 19

- Read pp. 399-402. Gather your notes on How to Read a Book and present your analysis in an organized way to your teacher. _____

Week 20

- Write an essay on how the rules of analytical reading can be applied to studying the Bible. _____

Week 21

- Complete the exercises and tests for Syntopical Reading (pp. 403-417). Grade your work and go over it with your teacher. _____

Week 22

- Read Appendix A: A Recommended Reading List.
 - Make a list of recommended books you have already read.
 - Make a list of recommended books that you would like to read.
 - Make a list of recommended books that you don't want to read but probably should.
 - Set some long term reading goals based on these lists. Show your teacher.

- ❑ Think of a topic you would like to research (syntopical reading) and make a plan to do it (but not for this class).