

GED 2002 Teachers' Handbook of Lesson Plans

Area/Skill - LA, Reading	Cognitive Skill Level - Application	Correlation to Framework - 04.03	Lesson Number - 09
<p>Activity Title - Increasing Reading Speed</p> <p>Goal/Objective</p> <p>To increase student's ability to read and comprehend material by increasing reading rate.</p> <p>Lesson Outline</p> <p>Introduction</p> <p>A good reading speed is around 500-700 words per minute. There are people who can actually read more than 1000 words per minute. For many GED students, the greatest challenge they face is improving their reading speed. They understand what they read, but they read very, very slowly and as a result many times cannot complete all of the questions on the GED Tests. This lesson is designed to provide some strategies to help improve reading speed.</p> <p>Activity</p> <p>In this activity students will identify possible reasons for poor reading speeds as well as strategies for improving reading rate. Review the Tips for Increasing Reading Speed handout with students. Introduce students to the concept of reading groups of words rather than single words to improve reading speed. Have students practice the strategy using a variety of materials.</p> <p>Debriefing/Evaluation Activity</p> <p>As students how they felt in making the change to reading groups of words. Provide opportunities for further practice.</p>			<p>Materials/Texts/Realia/Handouts</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Handout—Tips for Increasing Reading Speed • Copies of selected reading materials, articles, short stories, etc. • Paper and pencil • Highlighters
			<p>Extension Activity</p> <p>Provide timed reading activities every class session. If possible, begin and end the class session with a 3-5 minute timed reading activity.</p>
			<p>ESE/ESOL Accommodations</p> <p>Help student highlight groups of words in each sentence</p> <p>Use large print or print in color</p> <p>Have student use a lower grade level text if needed</p>
<p>Real-Life Connection</p> <p>Have each student identify a specific time that he/she is going to read each day, whether in class or at home. Have them set aside 5-10 minutes to start. Have students maintain a reading log to chart their progress.</p>			

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Activity Title— Increasing Reading Speed

Introduction

Ask: Did you know that a good reading speed is around 500-700 words per minute? Did you know that there are people who can actually read more than 1000 words per minute? *Say:* I know that those numbers sound impossible. But it is true. If you practice and use some specific strategies, you can improve your reading speed. For many students, the greatest challenge is improving reading speed. This lesson is designed to provide you with some strategies to help improve your reading speed.

Main Activity

Ask: What are some common reasons why people have trouble increasing their reading speed? Answers may vary, but if they do not include the following you should address them:

- Vocalizing the words
- lack of concentration
- Poor eyesight
- Fear of losing understanding if speed increases
- Trying to remember everything rather than just key points

Distribute the handout—Tips for Increasing Reading Speed. Review the strategies with students. Distribute reading material. Have students use markers to group 2 –3 words together in each sentence. Have the students read the groups of words rather than the single word to see if they can improve their reading speed. Practice with several different types of materials.

Debriefing/Evaluation Activity

Say: This is just one strategy that you can use to improve your reading speed. But it will not work unless you practice, practice, practice. Identify a specific time that you are going to read each day, whether in class or at home. Set aside 10-15 minutes to start. Each week, try to increase the amount of time you read each day. Keep a log of your reading activities.

Tips for Increasing Reading Speed

1. Try to avoid focusing on every word. Look at groups of 2 to 3 words.

The ability to read is one of the keys to academic success.

The ability / to read / is one of / the key / to academic success.

2. Improve your vocabulary. Learn new words. Keep a learning log of all the new vocabulary words you have learned.
3. Don't move your lips when reading. Keep your lips closed when reading.
4. Don't read every word. Decide what your purpose is for reading a given selection. If you don't need the details, just look for main ideas. Skim the material.
5. Practice reading for 5-10 minutes at a time and gradually increase your reading time. This will help if you have poor concentration skills.