

Reading Comprehension Master-class

Reading Comprehension (RC) tests your ability to understand, analyze, and infer information from written texts. Success relies on active reading, strategic pacing, and structural awareness.

1. Core Question Types

- **Main Idea / Primary Purpose:** What is the author's overarching thesis or goal?
- **Detail / Factual:** Locating specific stated information in the passage.
- **Inference / Implication:** Drawing logical conclusions from stated premises ($P \Rightarrow Q$).
- **Tone / Attitude:** Evaluating the author's emotional or professional stance (e.g., critical, objective, enthusiastic).
- **Function / Structure:** Why did the author include a specific paragraph or example?

2. Strategic Approach

1. **First-Last Paragraph Strategy:** Read the introduction and conclusion carefully to grasp the macro-structure.
2. **Active Skimming:** Map transition words instead of memorizing details.
3. **Question First (Optional):** For detail-heavy passages, scan questions beforehand.
4. **Elimination Mindset:** Prove *why* wrong answers are incorrect rather than searching for the right one.

3. Transition Words (Signposts)

Category	Keywords
Contrast	However, Although, Yet, Conversely
Continuity	Furthermore, Moreover, Additionally
Causality	Consequently, Therefore, Thus, Hence
Example	Specifically, For instance, Namely

4. Common Traps

- **Extreme Language:** Watch for words like *always*, *never*, *all*, *none*. Usually incorrect unless supported strongly.
- **Out of Scope:** Information that is true in the real world but *not* mentioned or implied in the passage.
- **Half-Right, Half-Wrong:** An option where the first half is correct but the conclusion twists the passage's intent.
- **Shell Game:** An answer that uses exact wording from the passage but answers a completely different question.