SQ3R METHOD

- Active elaboration of material that you read
- It consists of 5 steps
- It can be adapted to almost anything

(Robinson, 1970)





- **1. Survey** (1-5 minutes):
- Before reading, look through the whole chapter
 - What are the major headings & subheadings
 - The hierarchical structures are easy for our brains to grasp
 - Read the introductory and summary paragraphs
 - See if you can identify 3 to 6 major ideas in the chapter



- 2. **Question** (usually less than 30 seconds):
- Ask yourself what this chapter is about:
 - What is the question(s) that this chapter is trying to answer?
 - What question(s) do I have that this chapter might help answer?

- Repeat this process with each **subsection** of the chapter
- Try turning each heading into a question



3. Read (slower for some than others):

- Read one section at a time
 - Look for the answer to the question proposed by the heading

Active reading requires concentration

- Find yourself a place and time where you can concentrate
- Free from all distractions



- 4. **Recall/re-phrase (**about 1-3 minutes):
- Say aloud or write down
 - Any key phrase that sums up the major point of the section or answers the question
- Use your own words, do not just copy a phrase from the book
 - Research shows that we remember our own (active) connections better than ones given to us (passive)



- 5. **Review (**less than 5 minutes):
- After repeating steps 2-4 for each section
 - Write down your list of key phrases
 - It provides an outline for the chapter
- Test yourself by covering up the key phrases and seeing if you can recall them.
 - Do this right after you finish reading the chapter
 - If you can't recall one of your major points, that's a section you may need to re-read.

