RC STRATEGIES

Participants

	Participants
	Ron Purewal (Moderator)
	70+
	Ande
	Andres
	Ann
	bishal
	Carlo
	Chris
	Dinesh
	Frehiwot Wolde-Michael
	gb
	Jerzy 1
	Koushik
	manj

Chat

Show All

Ande: extremely specific details

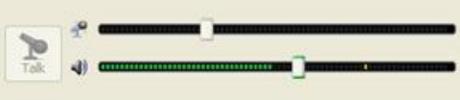Sudhanshu: to re-read

Dinesh: thanks

Ande: the point is your brother is a loser and a hog

Ande: 🙂

Dinesh: great explanation

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Audio - Ron Purewal

Talk

Whiteboard - Main Room (Scaled 119%)

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When you read a RC passage, WHY ARE YOU READING THE PASSAGE?

WHAT ARE YOU LOOKING FOR?

Main Point
Logic of the passage
Purpose of the passage
(Tone) --> you won't have to precisely identify this, but
you should have a sense of the "feeling" of the passage.
(MOST passages are very objective / factual / neutral -- i.e., there is
not really much of an identifiable "tone" in most passages)
YOU WILL NOT HAVE TO IDENTIFY THE TONE EXPLICITLY.

WHAT ARE YOU **NOT LOOKING FOR?**

You DO NOT want to read for DETAILS.

One fact about reading: It's much easier to read FOR something, rather than to
"just read" a passage.
So:

In order to direct your reading -- to give you something to READ FOR --
2 FOCUS QUESTIONS:

(1) WHAT'S THE POINT of the passage?
WHAT'S THE POINT of each smaller unit (usually each paragraph)?
* The point is NEVER just to "inform" or to list facts!

(2) If the passage presents facts or details, WHY ARE THEY THERE?
WHAT IS JUSTIFIED / EXPLAINED by those facts or details?
Concentrate on what the facts DO!   Don't concentrate on what the facts ARE.

dissection of a passage _ introductory details details end

example main idea

INFERENCE questions:

"which of these can be (logically) inferred?"
"if the statements are true, which of the following must also be true?"

* Pick the statement that MUST be true / can be PROVED (100% sure)
* Ignore the real-world conversational meaning of "inference"

"(most strongly) SUGGESTED / SUPPORTED":

"Whic of the following statements is most strongly supported?"
"The statements in the passage suggest which of the following?"

* Pick the statement that is true BEYOND ANY REASONABLE OBJECTION
  (i.e., "99.9999999% true")

* Ignore the real-world conversational meaning of "suggest"

mini-passage:

Rob walked past a bowl containing a thoroughly mixed collection of red and green candies, 50 of each. As he walked past, Rob grabbed 25 red candies and no green ones.

Example of an INFERENCE:

After Rob grabbed the candies, the ratio of green to red candies was 2 : 1.

Example of a STRONGLY SUPPORTED / SUGGESTED statement:

Rob did not grab candies at random.
Example of a statement that isn't either of these, but will seem that way to normal people:
Rob likes the red candies better than the green ones.

inference and suggest support questions

inference suggestions

inference summary

inference

long example

main idea

main idea questions

short strategy _ point_argument_facts details strengthen refute

suggestions example 1

suggestions example 2

suggestions example 3

suggestions example 3_1

suggestions relationship between passages passage makes logical sense

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When you're finding THE POINT of the passage:

* The point is NEVER just to "inform" or to list facts!

Here's an example:

"Passage"

Every Thursday night, my brother comes in from out of town and stays at my house. He sleeps over, and usually eats his dinner from my kitchen.

Every Friday morning, I open my refrigerator and notice that all of the good food in the refrigerator is gone! All the delicious meat, all the green vegetables, everything -- all gone.

NOTE:

EVERYTHING here is a fact, but the point is STILL not just to give facts!!

Paragraph 1 = just facts (about my brother's itinerary)

Paragraph 2 = just facts (about the inventory in my refrigerator)

THE POINT IS NOT JUST TO LIST THESE FACTS

the point is to CORRELATE my brother's coming and going to the absence of the good food in my refrigerator.

--> you have to figure this out with "common sense" -- there are no RULES that are are going to tell you this.

BECAUSE THIS IS A REAL-LIFE EXAMPLE, notice two things:
1) you DON'T stop at the facts -- you examine WHY the facts are there;

2) you DON'T memorize the details!
    --> most of you would probably not remember, a few minutes later, whether it was Wednesday or Thursday. Also, most of you wouldn't remember which specific foods were stolen.

Public Screen 4 ▼   35:41   In session for 51 minutes.

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