

Sample Strategy Evaluation Matrix

Strategy	How to Use	When to Use	What is it for?
Skim/Survey	Search for headings, highlighted words, previews, and summaries.	Before you read a long piece of text.	Gives an overview of the key concepts, helps you to focus on the important points.
Slow Down	Stop, read and think about information.	When information seems important. If you realize you don't understand what you have just read.	Improves your focus on important information.
Activate Prior Knowledge	Stop and think about what you already know about a topic.	Before you read something or do an unfamiliar task.	Makes new information easier to remember and allows you to see links between subjects. Information is less daunting if you already know something about the topic.
Fit Ideas Together	Relate main ideas to one another. Look for themes that connect the main ideas, or a conclusion.	When thinking about complex information, when deep understanding is needed.	Once you know how ideas are related they are easier to remember than learning as if they are separate facts. Also helps to understand them more deeply.
Draw Diagrams	Identify main ideas, connect them, classify ideas, decide which information is most important and which is supporting	When there is a lot of factual information that is interrelated.	Helps to identify main ideas and organize them into categories. Reduces memory load. May be easier to visualize.

(Adapted from Metacognition for the classroom and beyond: Differentiation and support for learners, 2009)