

Tips for the ACT Reading Section

1) **Before the test:**

- Make a list of your best reading passages: prose, social science, humanities, natural science.
- Determine the target number of questions to answer

2) **Scan** the passages to determine the passage type and general difficulty.

- Complete the passages in **your priority order**.

3) **Read/skim** the passage.

- Summarize each paragraph in a few words. Build an **index**.
- The first and last paragraphs are key. For each paragraph, the first and last sentences are key.

4) **Answer** the questions.

- Answer easier questions (with line numbers) first, global questions last.
- Sketch an answer to each question in your own words.
- Eliminate any answers that are obviously wrong.

5) **Answer** as many questions as possible for a given passage, guess on the rest (after eliminating obviously incorrect answers), and then move to the next passage (in your priority order).

6) **With 5 minutes left** on the test, go to each unanswered question and guess, using any eliminated answers to your advantage.

7) **Don't get "stuck"** – spending minutes on tough questions that you never complete.