

Kuo-Kuang Wang

Reading and Discussion

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### Self-Reflection

In the beginning of this reading course, I had set up my goals to help me improve my reading time speed. Besides, I could be able to do beneficial note-taking and recognize plenty of new words on the end of this StepUp program. This was first time that I had been experienced different education and first time to settle goals for myself. I was surprised that our instructor gave us tons of reading materials to let us read by ourselves.

Reading “No Apparent Distress” is one of reading materials, I had to read it and finish the study guide every week. Then, we will have literature circle role to discuss this novel about racial discrimination, miserable events, social advocacy and the author’s background. It helped me to clearly understand part of American history and learn several new vocabularies from this book at least one-hundred for sure.

In addition, I have also learned from textbook. Mrs. Mary has taught me numerous reading skills. For example, “Highlighting,” “Note-taking,” “Chunks,” and

“SQ4R” are all good methods that I use often. Sometimes, I will use “Note-taking” and “highlight” to keep some sentence as important parts that I have to read and think them for several time. Sometimes, I am going to use “SQ4R” to question myself. For example, “What is this article intend to tell for the readers?”, “what is the author’s purpose on this article?” and “Can I summary this paragraph?” Then, I can answer these all question by myself to help me understanding all reading materials.

Furthermore, Chunks in another method that help me to read as fast as possible. Mary taught me how to separate each paragraph into pieces of information and read important cues. I spent over five minutes to finish reading one article when I was first time to count my reading time speed. After practicing the Chunks method, I could be able to read an article within four minutes. It was improved that I could do that.

In the end of reading course, I have learned a number of reading skills. I believe that these skills can help me to pursue my Master’s degree after the StepUp program. To be a graduate student will require reading a lot of papers. So, using these reading skills not only help me to read fast but also assist me to save my time that I can also enjoy my graduate life. Next semester, I will start my graduate life and I will pick up one ESL course to continue learning and improving my English.