# The SQ3R Reading Strategy

**SQ3R** is a reading strategy to help you read faster and retain more information than ordinary reading methods. It consists of the following five steps:

## S = SURVEY

- Before reading, survey the material
- Glance through topic headings to get an overview of the reading
- Notice pictures, questions, and bold or italicized print that emphasizes important information
- Read final summary paragraph to determine the most important ideas

## Q = QUESTION

- Write questions that you may have after you survey the material
- Turn headers into questions to improve concentration and give purpose to your reading
- Create questions for pictures and graphs

## R = READ

- Search for answers to your questions in each section
- Make notes and highlight main ideas that support the concept
- Reflect and summarize what you have read
- Consider what the author is saying and how to use the information

## R = RECITE

- Answer questions aloud in your own words without looking at your answers
- Repeatedly reciting questions and answers in several different study sessions moves information from short-term to long-term memory

## R = REVIEW

- Test your memory by asking each question
- Review notes to verify if you are correct
- Review the questions you missed a second time

*If you have actively read and taken notes, you should not have to reread chapters. Reviewing notes each time you study will eliminate the need to "cram" for an exam.*