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Application of SSIS Reading Skills : A Student-centered Approach



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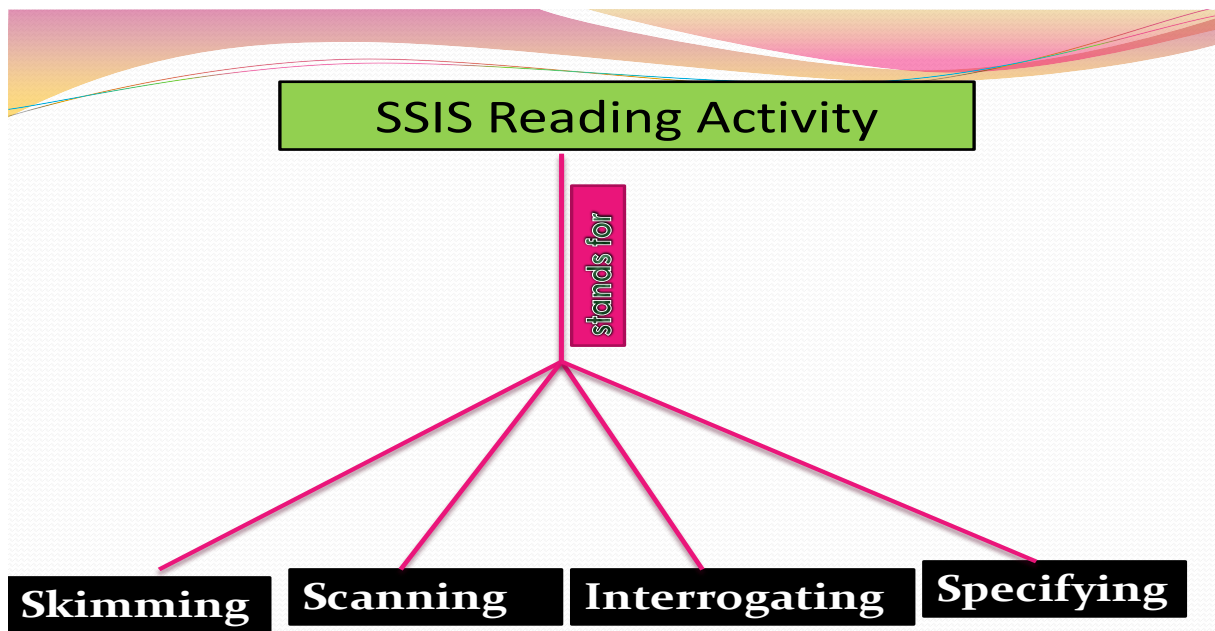
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Introduction :

Objectives :

To motivate the readers to

- ❖ Skim and scan the extract.
- ❖ Interrogate the extract and specify the answers.



SSIS stands for Skimming, Scanning, Interrogation and Specification of the questions framed. It is a process of thorough reading of the text interrogating the absences in it. The effective language instructors show students how they can adjust their reading behavior to deal with a variety of situations, types of input, and reading purposes. They help students develop a set of reading strategies and match appropriate strategies to each reading situation.

Introduction :

1. Recapitulate skimming and scanning acquired previously. 5 min
2. Skim the extract. (Dictionary is not allowed.) 5 min
3. Scan the extract. (Dictionary is allowed.) 10 min
4. Interrogate the extract.(Checking comprehension competency)10 min
5. Specify the answers. (Checking comprehension competency) 10 min
6. Read questions and answers. (Group leader) 20 min
7. Feedback : Good Reader, Better Reader, Best Reader

Definitions of Skimming and Scanning :

The text is skimmed in a shorter period of time focusing on much more information in it. Every reader consciously or unconsciously skims the text which can be termed as a high speed of rapid reading at a glance. It is a natural skill bestowed upon us. It is a discovery of core ideas inherent in the

text.

In the words of S. Hariharan, N. Sundararjan, S. P. Shanmugapriya,

“Skimming means gathering as much information as possible from a text in the shortest possible time. It is the skill you should use when you want to see if a chapter of a book is going to be suitable for your needs. You can also use skimming if you want to get the gist of a paper without having to read it all in detail. You use the author’s organizational clues to discover the main ideas of the text.” (S. Hariharan, N. Sundararjan, S. P. Shanmugapriya 2010:133).

On the other hand, scanning is a reading for the specific information in the text.

S. Hariharan, N. Sundararjan and S. P. Shanmugapriya opine that

“Scanning is a technique for fast reading. It is a way of reading to look specific information in a text. Scanning can be used to look up a phone number, read through the small advertisements in a newspaper, or for browsing TV schedules, timetables, lists, catalogues or web pages for information. For these tasks you don’t need to read or understand every word.” (S. Hariharan, N. Sundararjan, S. P. Shanmugapriya 2010:133).

Then, the text needs to be interrogated thoroughly, discussed and debated at length. The questions need further clarifications and justifications thereafter. Therefore, the readers finally specify the answers to the questions which have already been framed in pairs and groups. All interpretations demand further interpretations as the text is full of connotations to the readers. All rush onto the signified, the Absolute which is a symbolic manifestation of multiplicity.

SSIS Reading Activity :

1 Hour

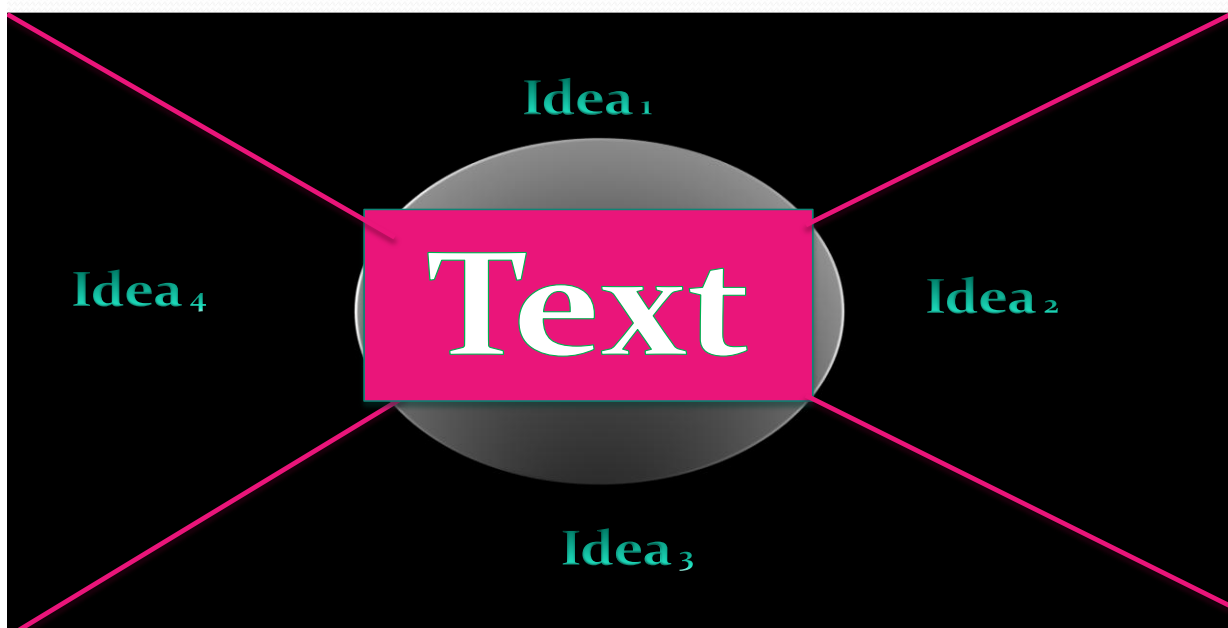
1. Give the participants 5 minutes to skim the extract.
2. Then put them in groups of 5-7 with a leader to organize their thoughts.
3. Dictionary is allowed to look up the words while scanning the extract, NOT for skimming.

4. Interrogate the extract as per comprehension competency of participants.
5. Specify the answers to the questions framed.
6. Group leaders read out the questions and answers while other groups listen and take a note of them.
7. Good Reader, Better Reader, Best Reader are awarded and appreciated.

Reading material is language input. By giving students a variety of materials to read, instructors provide multiple opportunities for students to absorb vocabulary, grammar, sentence structure, and discourse structure as they occur in authentic contexts. Students thus gain a more complete picture of the ways in which the elements of the language work together to convey meaning.

Advanced Level : SSIS Reading Skills

ACTIVITY 2



Activity 2

Advanced Level :Critical Comment

Comment on the extract to be skimmed and scanned by each group.

1. Introduction (5 min)

2. Each participant in each group comment on the extract in the triangle. (10 min)
3. A critical comment on the extract is stated as a final point in a circle by each group as a fruitful product of group discussion and the comprehension of the text. (10 min)
4. Feedback : Good reader, Better reader, Best reader (5 min)

Conclusion :

The approach to the acquisition of English as a Second Language (E2L) should be communicative, learner-centered and activity-based. A facilitator first needs to form groups as the competency level of learners. The active and passive learners both should be included in a group. The lesson which has been introduced by the facilitator should be discussed, debated and analyzed at length. Discussions lead us to some conclusions that should be shared by the group leader to the whole class. The activity goes on repeating to each group formed by the facilitator wherein the team leader plays a vital role.

References :

<http://www.nclrc.org/essentials/reading/stratread.htm>

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