**Reading Strategies for Difficult Textbooks/Articles**

1. **Talking to the Text**

This involves asking questions as you read, making connections with what you already know and what you read, and knowing when you are stuck and/or knowing when your mind has wandered and you need to re-read.

1. **Marking Up the Text**

This is like talking to the text but you do this in written form – making comments in the margins, highlighting or circling unknown words and/or parts that are confusing.

1. **Summarizing**

This involves putting the main idea of what you read in a sentence or two, in your own words.

**What Do Readers Do?**

Readers don’t always need to look up unknown words. They use context clues and only look up the words that truly help make sense of the reading.

Readers read for different purposes. Having a purpose helps you remember what you read and determine what is important.

Readers are aware of their thinking.

Readers don’t always remember everything they read!

Readers know that reading is something they will do for their entire life, not just for schoolwork.

*Compiled by Amy Kilbridge, Capital Area Career Center*