Strategies for reading

C:\Users\akilbrid\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary Internet Files\Content.IE5\R74Z2RR4\MC900232723[1].wmf

**Tools of the Trade:**

Highlighter, pen or pencil, sticky notes

**Note:** If you can write on the text, you won’t need sticky notes, but often you can’t write in your textbook and will need to use sticky notes or take notes.

**Step 1:**

* Read a portion of the text – a paragraph or two (a chunk that goes together) without highlighting, marking anything or taking notes, to get the general idea of what you are reading. This includes charts and graphs.
* Go back to the beginning of that portion and highlight or write down words you don’t know – try to figure out the meaning using context clues/ask someone what they mean/look at the glossary or look them up in the dictionary.
* Highlight or write down key ideas and phrases. Don’t OVER highlight.

**Step 2:**

* Talk back to the text.
* Agree, disagree, make connections to something familiar to you and write these things down in the margins or your notes as you read.

**Step 3:**

* Write summary sentences or phrases for each paragraph or major break in the topic in the text.

**Note:** You can move back and forth through these steps, and go back and highlight or take notes as often as you need to understand the text. *Amy Kilbridge, CACC*