

What is Guided Reading?

Guided Reading is an approach to reading that scaffolds pupils' thinking in how they analyse a body of text. It also helps with note taking from a piece of text.

What Does the Research Say?

Chang & Ku (2014) have shown that note taking from reading improves student learning. It also shows that note taking requires effort and encoding which stores the information more firmly in long term memory.

Boyle (2013) shows that getting trained in specific note taking strategies can significantly improve the quality of notes and the amount of material remembered later.

Reynolds (2016) shows that adding a skeleton framework for notes greatly increases engagement with note taking and the quality of notes overall.

Further Reading

Jenner, Making Reading Routine, TH174

Cornell University, The Cornell Note Taking System

Jennifer Gonzalez, Note taking: A Research Roundup

Using Guided Reading

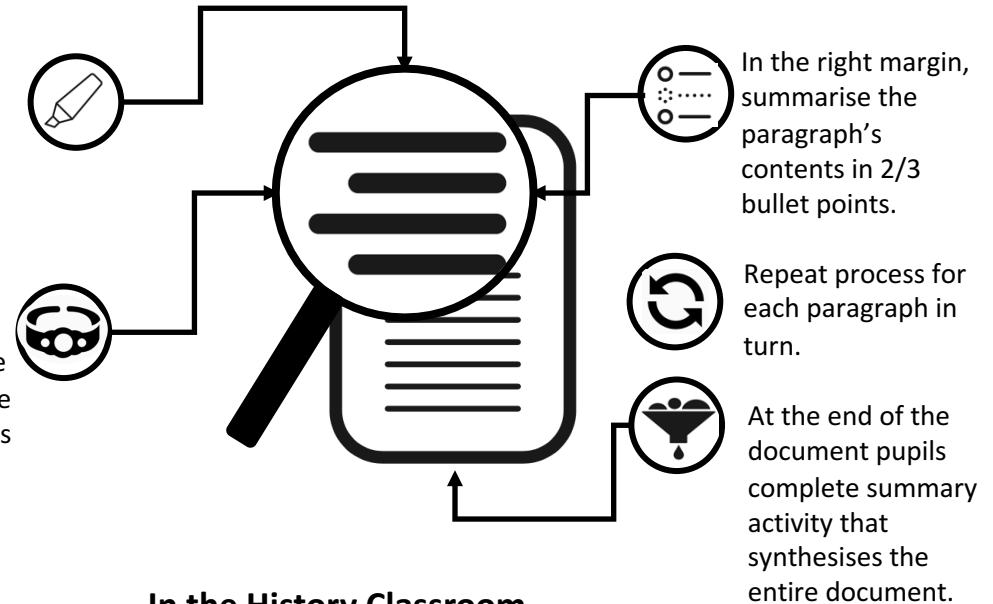
Preparation

1. Select a body of text appropriate for the group you are working with.
2. Widen the margins of the document to 3cm from each edge of the page.
3. Insert Guided Reading instructions to the top of the document.
4. Add a summative activity to the end of the document.

In the lesson

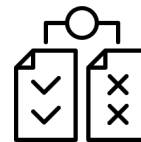
Highlight key information in the paragraph. Focus on being selective.

In the left margin, give the paragraph a title that summarises its overall message.



Do's and Don'ts

To really maximise your use of Guided Reading, follow this guidance on do's and don'ts



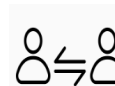
- Encourage use of symbols.
- Cite your source for the reading you have chosen.
- Provide worked examples of what is expected using the first paragraphs.
- Go through the activity paragraph by paragraph.
- Hold mini-plenaries
- Spend a whole lesson if needed.
- Don't hand it out and expect students to get it.
- Don't treat it as a standalone or one off activity.
- Don't forget to emphasise the various skills that are being developed.
- Don't add an activity at the end that isn't meaningful to the outcomes of the lesson.

In the History Classroom

Below are some examples of how you could use Guided Reading within the history classroom.



Give students an original document and analyse the content.



Give students each other's essays and get them to analyse it through Guided Reading.



Get students engaged with the work of historians by getting them to summarise their interpretations.



Use in place of textbook reading.