

UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS
FRESHMAN LECTURES III

Suggestions for Improving Reading Ability*

The following suggestions relating to various phases of reading efficiency have been found to be important for students. Superior students employ the suggestions consistently and find them helpful.

In using this check list, answer the question "Do you?" with reference to each item by placing a check (✓) in the appropriate space under "Never," "Seldom," etc. Having made an analysis of your present study and reading habits, practice using the suggestions contained in this list until you can honestly check "Usually" or "Always" for each one.

Building a Vocabulary

Item	Never	Seldom	Often	Usually	Constantly
1. Read good literature extensively					
2. Associate with people who have large vocabularies and who use them properly. .					
3. Listen to good lectures and addresses as often as possible					
4. Strive consciously to enlarge your vocabulary; use the dictionary constantly . . .					
5. Be word-conscious; be tactfully critical of the usage both you and your friends make of words.					
6. Get criticism of your word usage from others					
7. Practice using the words you have studied; make a definite effort to use new words on every appropriate occasion					
8. Study definite word lists to test and increase your word knowledge; note pronunciation, word stems, derivation and history, antonyms and synonyms, shades of meaning, and meaning of prefixes and suffixes. . .					
9. Keep a list of unfamiliar words that are found in daily reading; make a practice of looking up new words each day					
10. Associate new words with foreign words already known					
11. Attach meanings to words through association with other familiar words in your own language					
12. Attach meanings to words through associating them consciously with situations or settings in which they occur.					

*Adapted from University of Chicago.