

BEFORE & AFTER

Set Purpose & Check Purpose:

Launch and Met Purpose?

PURPOSES: Before Reading—to decide what you want to learn and do because of this text. After Reading—to prove that you have met your purpose(s), that you can do what you set out to do.

WHY DO THIS: Setting a good purpose is one of the most beneficial things you can do to learn well from a text: you know where you are headed, what you want to learn, and where to focus. A good purpose also helps you make the metacognitive decisions needed to learn. When you have finished reading, a good purpose helps you review and solidify your learning.

KNOW THIS:

GOOD purposes guide your reading: “*Diagram the respiratory system, list all the parts, and explain their functions.*” Notice the observable action verbs. GOOD purposes may also be phrased as guiding questions: “*What does the respiratory system look like? What are its parts? What does each part contribute?*”

USELESS purposes do not guide your reading such as a motivating goal “*Get an A on the quiz,*” or a generic purpose to apply to any text “*Understand the chapter.*”

HOW to do *Launch and Met Purpose?*

1. As you preview the text, think what you want to learn and be able to do because of this chapter.
2. After you preview, think what you want to learn, and make your best guess about what your professor expects you to learn.
3. Now state an action or ask a guiding question to lead you through this specific text—make it one you can use to prove you have learned well from this text.
4. Write your purpose(s) and place them before you as you read.
5. Read with your guiding purpose(s) in mind, constantly focusing on what you need to learn from this text—and skimming the less valuable parts. As you interact with the text, you may see the need to change or refine your purpose. Do so.
6. When finished, check to see if you have met your purpose(s): Perform the actions or answer the questions. If you cannot, return to the text until you can do so.