

Instructions for Reading Comprehension Assignments

FCWR-111

Spring 2021

An important part of this course is the continued development of critical reading skills. To achieve that goal, you will be completing comprehension exercises for each of our assigned readings. **All reading comprehension assignments are worth 100 points.**

- Type your name and ID# on the paper
- **Use 12-point font in Georgia or Times New Roman**
- Type your answers directly on the document; do not delete any text---and upload/submit the entire “assignment.” You don’t have to upload the reading itself.

Each reading assignment has **three** parts. You must complete all parts to receive a grade:

1. **Vocabulary** (10 points): for each word you see in **bold blue**, type out the word, give the word form as the word is used in the sentence AND write your own original sentence using the word in the same word form. **Be sure that the meaning of the word is clear from the context of your sentence.**

Example: diverse (adj.) This class has students from eight different countries, so it is very diverse.

2. A **Summary** (30 points), in your own words, of the reading’s main ideas: Each summary should be roughly **10-12 complete sentences**. Explain in your own words what the author is trying to accomplish in his or her essay. You should begin each summary with the author’s full name, the essay’s full title, and one sentence stating the essay’s general purpose and method.

Example: In “What Is Intelligence, Anyway?,” Isaac Asimov **argues** that intelligence is much more diverse than what we learn in school; he also **demonstrates** that he is not as intelligent as his reputation might indicate.

Following the first sentence, discuss the essay’s most important ideas in your own words. In order to do this, you should:

- Write out in one complete sentence the **main idea of each paragraph**.
- Decide which of those sentence summaries are most important, and use them to build your summary.

Your goal should be to summarize the essay clearly and concisely so that someone who has not read it could understand its main ideas through your description. Grammar counts!

3. Answers to the **Comprehension Questions** (60 points). Be sure to answer each comprehension question in your own words. You should use the words from the question to begin your answer, but from that point, explain your ideas with your own language in several sentences, exactly as in WRIT-110. Each reading answer must be composed of *three* parts:
1. An introduction that uses the key words from the question (1 sentence)
 2. An explanation of the introduction, using facts from the reading, but no copied language from the reading; paraphrase (2-3 sentences)
 3. A conclusion that restates the answer's main idea (1 sentence)

Example: Question---What kind of relationship did Cheryl Strayed have with her mother? How can you tell? Give examples, in your own words.

Answer---Cheryl had a _____ relationship with her mother. In her essay, she states that _____. In another example, Cheryl remembers when she and her mother _____. Therefore, it is clear that Cheryl and her mother _____.