



LANGUAGE ARTS

STUDENT BOOK

▶ **12th Grade | Unit 3**

LANGUAGE ARTS 1203

READING, RESEARCH, AND LISTENING SKILLS

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Reading, Research, and Listening Skills

Introduction

At the beginning of the seventeenth century, Francis Bacon said, “Reading maketh a full man; conference a ready man; and writing an exact man; and, therefore, if a man write little, he had need have a great memory; if he confer little, he had need have a present wit; and if he read little, he had need have much cunning, to seem to know that he doth not.”

Those people who read usually know more than individuals who do not. Books and articles about countless subjects can answer the questions that refuse to remain unanswered. George MacDonald said, “As you grow ready for it, somewhere or other, you will find what is needful for you in a book.” Laurence Stern, the English novelist, wrote, “The mind should be accustomed to make wise inflections, and draw curious conclusions as it goes along.”

Jesus also made reference to the value of reading. In the time of Christ, only a few educated men were able to learn from an inscribed page. When the Pharisees berated Jesus because the disciples picked corn on the Sabbath, He said in Matthew 12:3, “Have ye not read what David did, when he was an hungered, and they that were with Him?”

Most people agree that reading is one of the most valuable ways to gain information. Improving your reading skills should help you gain knowledge about God’s Word, as well as knowledge about secular subjects.

In this LIFE PAC® you will learn and practice some valuable study skills. The mastery of these skills will help you in your future studies.

Three major skill areas included in this LIFE PAC are reading, research, and listening. As you work to increase your reading comprehension, you will practice to develop your perceptual skills. You will practice identifying sentence meanings, main ideas, and supporting details. You will also draw conclusions from implied meanings.

As you learn to search for information, you will learn to use valuable research tools: indexes, dictionaries, magazines, directories, periodical databases, and the library cataloging systems.

The listening skills you will develop in this section will be extremely useful. You will learn more about effective note taking and following directions.

Objectives

Read these objectives. The objectives tell you what you will be able to do when you have successfully completed this LIFE PAC®. When you have finished this LIFE PAC, you will be able to:

1. Demonstrate an improvement in your rate of word, sentence, and phrase recognition.
2. Demonstrate an understanding of word and sentence meaning.
3. Correctly identify the main idea of a paragraph.
4. Identify the details that support a topic sentence.

1. READING FOR COMPREHENSION

Your ability to read and to understand the material being read depends on many things: your visual skills, your perceptual skills, your vocabulary, your purpose for reading, your mental capacity, your past experiences, your familiarity with the material, and many other things. In other words, reading is a complex process that involves physical, intellectual, and even emotional reactions.

In this section, you will practice some reading skills in order to improve your comprehension. You will develop your perceptual skills by completing a series of timed word and phrase identification drills. You will practice identifying sentence meanings, main ideas, and supporting details. You will also gain practice in drawing conclusions from implied meanings.

Section Objectives

Review these objectives. When you have completed this section, you should be able to:

1. Demonstrate an improvement in your rate of word, sentence, and phrase recognition.
2. Demonstrate an understanding of word and sentence meaning.
3. Correctly identify the main idea of a paragraph.
4. Identify the details that support a topic sentence.
5. Correctly use the terms *infer* and *imply*.
6. Make inferences, or draw conclusions, from material that does not make a direct statement.

RECOGNIZING WORDS AND PHRASES

In this section, you will be introduced to the three types of exercises in this LIFEPAK: rapid word identification, rapid phrase identification, and rapid recognition of word meaning. These exercises all deal with a basic skill—visual perception. As you complete these exercises, you should increase the speed of your eye movements, and you should eliminate any tendency to vocalize words.

You need to see correctly in order to read with any rapidity. When your eyes pause, the pauses (eye fixations) should be brief and accurate.

Some people think they must read a sentence word by word. Actually the most effective way to read consists of recognizing groups of words during each eye pause. Eye span includes all the words the reader can recognize during an eye pause. You can increase your reading speed by decreasing

the number of eye pauses you make per line and by increasing your eye span. The exercises in this section can help you increase your reading speed without sacrificing comprehension.

Recognition. The following group of exercises will help you to recognize words more rapidly and to move your eyes in a more regular pattern, without backtracking. These drills are designed to be practiced only two or three times at one sitting. After completing the first two drills (1.1 and 1.2), turn to **Identifying Sentence Meanings** for the rest of the class period. In this way you will be building reading speed and comprehension at the same time. The next day use the next two or three drills as warm up exercises before resuming your work in **Identifying Sentence Meanings**. Continue in this way until you have finished the drills.

Do this drill. Moving your eyes rapidly across each line, mark the bold word each time it appears on the same line.

Example:

least	lease	-least-	leave	-least-	leash
series	-series-	serious	serial	service	-series-

Work as rapidly as you can. Do not stop to change your markings. Time yourself, or have someone time you. Try to finish each drill in less than 35 seconds.

1.1 Begin timing.

a. tough	laugh	tough	taught	tough	laugh
b. rough	cough	rough	bough	rough	bough
c. alike	alike	alive	alive	alike	alive
d. way	weigh	weigh	way	way	away
e. accuse	accuse	accrue	accuse	accrue	accrue
f. fright	freight	fret	fright	frigate	fright
g. friend	friend	fiend	friend	fend	friend
h. gentle	gentile	gent	gentle	gentle	gentile
i. gab	gad	gab	gage	gag	gab
j. cite	cite	site	cite	site	sight
k. hurtle	hurry	hurt	hurtle	hurtful	hurtle
l. harsh	hash	harsh	hasp	hash	harsh
m. lady	lady	lad	ladle	lady	ladder
n. leak	lean	leak	leaf	lead	leak

Time: _____ seconds. Check each line carefully for mistakes. The time to complete each drill should gradually decrease.

Do these drills. Some lines may not include the key word at all. Do not waste time looking back at any line; either mark the key word the first time reading, or skip it; go right on to the next item.

1.2 Begin timing.

a. path	path	bath	bath	path	bath
b. ware	wear	ware	wore	wear	are
c. metal	metal	mettle	mental	metal	mettle
d. effect	affect	affect	effete	effect	affect
e. race	place	face	race	grace	place
f. legend	legion	legend	legible	legion	legend
g. level	lever	level	levee	level	lever
h. madam	madman	madden	madam	madness	madam
i. maid	maid	mail	made	main	maim
j. manner	manor	manna	manner	manor	mama
k. hatch	hatch	latch	match	batch	catch
l. favor	flavor	flavor	favor	favor	flavor
m. class	crass	class	grass	class	crass
n. veil	vein	veil	vain	vale	veil

Time: _____ seconds. Check each line for mistakes.

1.3 Begin timing.

a. grate	grace	great	grab	graft	grace
b. glue	gluey	glued	glue	gluier	glue
c. frontage	front	frontage	frontal	frontier	frontal
d. fussy	fussily	fussy	fussily	fusion	fuzzy
e. lucky	lucky	luckily	luckier	lucky	luckily
f. median	medium	melon	median	medium	medley
g. module	modal	module	mode	model	module
h. moving	moving	movies	mower	moving	movie
i. pizza	piazza	pica	pizza	pizza	piazza
j. pigment	pigpen	pigment	pygmy	pigskin	pigment
k. piston	pistol	pistil	piston	piston	pistol
l. serum	sermon	serious	sermon	serum	serum
m. shirt	shirt	shift	short	shirt	shift
n. tawny	tawdry	tawny	tawdry	tasty	tawny

Time: _____ seconds. Check each line for mistakes.

1.4 Begin timing.

a. textile	textile	texture	textual	textile	texture
b. their	their	there	they're	there	their
c. tier	tied	tie	tide	tier	tire
d. throw	throe	throw	throne	through	throw
e. tuber	tuber	tuba	tube	tuber	tuba
f. unite	unit	unity	unite	unite	unity
g. usurp	usurp	usury	usurper	usury	usurp
h. verity	verity	verify	verity	verily	verify
i. visor	visor	visitor	visor	visit	vision
j. wastage	wastrel	waste	wastage	wasteful	wastage
k. woolly	woolly	woody	wool	woods	woolly
l. your	your	yore	you	you're	your
m. writhe	writhe	writ	write	writhe	write
n. elder	either	eider	neither	eider	either

Time: _____ seconds. Check each line for mistakes.

1.5 Begin timing.

a. elector	elector	elective	electron	elector	elective
b. elegant	elegance	elegy	elegant	elegiac	elegant
c. exit	exit	exist	exile	exit	exist
d. further	furtive	furrow	further	further	furlong
e. gambol	bambrel	gambol	gamble	gambit	gambol
f. giddy	giddy	giddily	giddy	giddily	giggle
g. grievance	grievance	grievous	grievous	grievance	grievous
h. guild	guilt	guild	guilt	guilt	guilt
i. hapless	hapless	happily	happen	hapless	happy
j. inviolable	inviolable	inviolable	inviolable	inviolable	inviolable
k. majestic	majestic	majesty	majestic	majesty	majesty
l. lumbar	lumber	lumbar	lumber	lumbar	lumber
m. minuet	minute	minuend	minuet	minute	minuet
n. prey	prey	pray	pray	prey	pray

Time: _____ seconds. Check each line for mistakes.

Do these drill exercises. Follow these directions for activities 1.6 through 1.11. Move your eyes down the columns rather than across the line. Every time you see the key word in the column, make a check mark by it. Work quickly.

1.6 Key word: **swimming**

(Begin timing.)

skimming	scathing
skipping	sensing
skimming	sentence
swimming	slimming
screaming	slamming
scanning	swimming
swimming	someone
scantling	settling
shining	sibling
slamming	shamming
snowing	shutter
swimming	kimming
snippy	scanning
sneaky	swimming
snippety	skinning
snipping	snipping
swimming	sniffing
scanning	swimming
skimming	spinach
snagging	swimming

Time: _____ seconds.

1.7 Key word: **package**

(Begin timing.)

packing	parsley
packhorse	partly
package	partisan
paddock	passkey
padre	package
pagan	passive
package	passport
pacific	package
pancake	pastime
pocket	pastor
package	pasture
palace	patchy
palate	package
palaver	pattern
package	patient
panacea	package
pancake	passing
patriot	package
peacock	parsley
package	passage

Time: _____ seconds.



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