

## **1. Try to practice the following skills when reading:**

- Skimming texts – Read a text quickly to get the overall/general meaning.
- Scanning texts – Read a text quickly and look for the key pieces of information (e.g. names, dates, etc).
- Guessing the meaning of unknown vocabulary – Try to work out the meaning of unknown vocabulary within a sentence by also looking at the sentence as a whole and the context in which the word is being used.

## **2. Should you read the whole text first?**

Good question! Thanks for asking! It depends how much you read English in your daily life. If you read a lot, you will probably be able to just look at the sentences and find the best answer.

But most students should read the whole text quickly to get an idea of what the writer really wants to say about the topic. That will make it easier to choose the answers. The key word is quickly.

## **3. Tips**

- The best way to prepare for the Reading test is to READ. Read a lot.
- If you know that two of the options have the same meaning, neither can be the answer.
- Remember to read the title. It's there to help you.
- Never lose time trying to think of the answer to the example.
- Prepositions!

## **4. General Tips - reading and putting sentences back together (blank paragraphs)**

Read the text with the gaps first (before the questions). It's very helpful to know what the text is about and get some idea of the structure of the writing BEFORE you start trying to find the answers.

The most important sentences are the ones before and after each gap - read these very closely. You don't have to fill in the answers in order - start with the one you think is easiest and when you get to the most difficult one there will only be 2 answers left.