

Teaching Reading in Today's Elementary Schools

Chapter 1 Study Guide Questions

The Importance of Reading

- Why is reading important?

Components of the Reading Process

- What are the components of the reading act? Briefly describe each.

The Reading Product

- What are some various forms of the reading product? List a few types of reading products below.
- How does understanding the reading process equip teachers to be more effective in reading instruction?

The Reading Process

- What are the nine aspects of the reading process? What is the importance of each?

Aspect	Importance
1)	
2)	
3)	
4)	
5)	
6)	
7)	
8)	
9)	

- Give an example of a reading process “breakdown” (i.e., what could happen when one of the reading aspects isn’t working) for each of the nine aspects of the reading process.

Aspect	Breakdown Issue
1) e.g., sensory aspect	If a child has vision difficulties, then there may be a problem with that child’s ability to recognize the printed letters on the page.
2)	
3)	
4)	
5)	
6)	
7)	
8)	
9)	

- What can teachers do to enhance a child’s abilities in each of the nine aspects of the reading process?

Aspect	Ideas for enhancing a child’s abilities in this area
1) e.g., sensory aspect (vision and hearing)	In order to help a child to visually discriminate between letters (e.g., the difference between <i>b</i> and <i>d</i>), he/she needs lots of practice with recognizing differences between letters. One way to help children practice would be for them to make letters in a tray with sand in it or with shaving cream on their tables or desks.
2)	
3)	
4)	
5)	
6)	
7)	
8)	
9)	

The Reading Process – Selected Theories

- What are the three reading process theories cited in the text? Compare and contrast these theories.
- What is “Whole Language Philosophy”?

- What dilemma can cause teachers to focus more on the instruction of reading subskills? Why is this a dilemma?

Twelve Principles of Teaching Reading

- Which of the twelve principles of teaching reading holds special importance to you as a reading instructor? Why?

- Do any of the twelve principles that do not make sense to you as a teacher? Why or why not?

At the end of reading this chapter, return to the chapter's opening notes. Are you able to do all of the listed objectives? Are you able to define all of the terms that appear in the chapter?