

## READING ACTIVITY

### READING ALOUD \* (Beginner's level)

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- Objective** : To enable learners to read with proper phonological features such as stress, intonation, chunking and pauses while reading aloud for listeners to make sense of the reading
- Participation** : Individual
- Material** : Any material
- Preparation** : Reading aloud any text, modelling news readers on popular channels/ radio stations, as frequently as possible.

#### Procedure:

- One can take any text, including newspapers or magazines, to read aloud. To start with one has to read the text fluently without stammering, backtracking, unwanted pauses and hesitation.
- As the practice of reading continues one has to pay attention to aspects such as,
  - o Not leaving out words or sounds
  - o Not inserting words or sounds
  - o Intelligible pronunciation of the words
  - o Appropriate chunking/sense groups
  - o Meaningful pauses
  - o Stress at the word level and sentence level, and
  - o Proper intonation to convey precise meaning
- During the class students can be made to sit/stand in a circle and instructed to read one after the other and feedback be given after each one finishes reading, based on the criteria mentioned above. One of the most common problems in reading is either reading too fast or too slow. The normal reading speed is estimated to be 150 words per minute.
- A few proficient readers can be given a chance to read aloud and the whole class can offer them feedback.

#### Learning outcomes:

- 1) Learners at the initial stages realize that reading aloud is not an easy skill as it appears to be.
- 2) Learners recognize that the practice of reading aloud is mostly for the sake of listeners and not for oneself as it hinders one's reading speed.

**Further activities:** Listening to audio books and good newscasters can pay dividends. More importantly, one has to constantly practise with any type of material at least for a few minutes.

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\* **Reading Aloud:** Since it is time-consuming and the bright students have no problem with it, it is usually ignored in schools. The lack of reading aloud practice prevents many students from developing effective reading skills.

A good reader can explore the possibility of becoming a newscaster on a TV channel or a radio station.