

Concepts and Skills taught in *Reading Comprehension: Book One, Book Two, and Book Three*

Concepts and Skills	Book 1	Book 2	Book 3
Sentence Comprehension			
• Identify subject and verb	X	X	X
• Recognize groups of words that modify the subject and verb	X	X	X
• Use context clues to determine antecedent	X	X	X
• Understand the difference between <i>and</i> , <i>but</i> , and <i>or</i>	X	X	X
• Visualize as you read; turn words into visual images	X	X	X
• Recognize definitions and examples included in sentences	X	X	X
• Know why words are set off by commas, parentheses, and dashes		X	X
• Understand the purpose of words that follow a colon		X	X
Paragraph Comprehension			
• Determine the author's purpose for writing a paragraph		X	X
• Identify the main idea of a paragraph		X	X
• Understand the meaning of transition words and phrases		X	X
• Skim for key ideas			X
• Use context clues to figure out meaning of unknown words			X
Punctuation and Grammar			
• Recognize complete sentence vs phrase or dependent clause	X	X	X
• Apply comma rules	X	X	X
• Understand compound sentences, semicolons, FANBOYS		X	X
• Recognize singular and plural words	X	X	X
• Understand and apply subject-verb agreement rules	X	X	X
• Understand apostrophes used in singular and plural possession	X	X	X
• Understand apostrophes used to form contractions	X	X	X
• Understand the nine main parts of speech			X
Written Expression			
• Write interesting, informative, grammatically correct sentences	X	X	X
• Edit sentences to correct errors and add details	X	X	X
• Use appositives to combine sentences		X	X
Vocabulary			
• Review / practice decoding skills to sound out unfamiliar words			X
• Know the meaning of words that look similar: <i>then</i> , <i>than</i> etc.	X	X	X
• Use homophones correctly: <i>there</i> , <i>their</i> , <i>they're</i> etc.	X	X	X
• Understand idioms		X	X
Test-Taking Tips and Strategies			
• Understand what questions are asking	X	X	X
• Understand open-ended questions		X	X
• Know how to eliminate wrong choices on multiple choice tests	X	X	X
• Know how to answer reference and inference questions		X	X
• Know how to answer allusion questions			X
• Understand how to determine character traits			X

Build a Strong Foundation for Future Success

In *Reading Comprehension: Books One, Two, and Three*, students...

- Learn, practice, and master all the skills tested on ACT English and ACT Reading
- Develop comprehension skills that enable them to increase the pace at which they read
- Practice test-taking strategies and are introduced to the ACT testing format

In *ACT Prep: English* and *ACT Prep: Reading*, students...

- Learn how to use the skills they mastered in the *Reading Comprehension* series to correctly answer every type of question asked on the ACT English and ACT Reading tests
- Learn and practice appropriate pacing to develop a personal confidence in taking timed tests
- Practice test-taking strategies while completing full-length, authentic ACT practice tests

Concepts and Skills	Book 1 (6 th)	Book 2 (7 th)	Book 3 (8 th)	ACT English	ACT Reading
Locate subject & verb; use periods & commas	x	x	x	x	
Create visual images as you read	x	x	x		x
Commas, parentheses, dashes, semicolons, colons		x	x	x	
Apostrophes & conjunctions	x	x	x	x	
Recognize definitions within sentences	x	x	x	x	x
Verb tense; subject-verb agreement	x	x	x	x	
Pronoun-antecedent agreement	x	x	x	x	
Comparative & superlative adjectives; parallelism				x	
Figurative and literal language; idioms		x	x	x	x
Commonly confused words	x	x	x	x	
Transition words	x	x	x	x	
Understand relationship between clauses	x	x	x	x	x
Understand placement of words & sentences	x	x	x	x	
Write & punctuate sentences correctly	x	x	x	x	
Edit vague, clumsy writing to clear, concise writing	x	x	x	x	
Revise redundant, wordy, irrelevant writing				x	
Choose best intro & concluding sentences				x	
Identify purpose of words, phrases, & sentences	x	x	x	x	x
Determine if essay met intended goal				x	x
Determine author's purpose & main idea		x	x	x	x
Find & analyze supporting details	x	x	x		x
Recognize cause & effect		x	x		x
Compare & contrast		x			x
Draw conclusions, make inferences & references		x	x	x	x
Understand point of view, literary terms, & tone					x
Identify overall organization & shifts		x	x		x
Understand meaning of word used in passages		x	x	x	x
Identify character traits			x		x
Decode unknown words			x		

Test-Taking Tips and Strategies	Book 1 (6 th)	Book 2 (7 th)	Book 3 (8 th)	ACT English	ACT Reading
Learn how to answer questions that say... “All of the following EXCEPT”	x		x		
Recognize answer choices that have opposite meanings	x	x			
Learn that in multiple choice questions, if even one word is false, eliminate that choice	x	x	x	x	x
Learn that in questions that have 2 <i>yes</i> and 2 <i>no</i> answers, begin by crossing off two choices	x	x		x	
Learn that in multiple choice questions, focus on the words that are <i>different</i> in each answer choice	x	x	x	x	
Recognize choices listed in reverse order	x				
Learn how to answer questions that say... “Find the answer choice that is NOT acceptable”		x	x	x	
Watch out for answer choices that use words from the passage to mean something different					x
THINK! Authors don’t tell everything	x	x	x		x
Use parts of speech to help find correct answer choice			x		
Become familiar with the ACT testing format		x	x	x	x
Work on pacing for timed tests		x	x	x	x
Find evidence to support T/F test questions		x			
Find evidence to support inferences and references		x	x		x
Pay attention to the little words in questions: <i>why, how, when, where, who</i>		x	x	x	x
Rewrite open-ended questions into a question format		x	x		x
Be cautious of answer choices that include <i>always, never, everyone, 100%, etc.</i>			x		
Learn that when a question sends you to a specific line in the text, the answer might be found before or after that line.		x	x		x
Skim for answers using key words			x		
Eliminate distractions when you read					x
Increase reading pace					x
Practice time-saving method to fill in answer bubble sheet				x	x

**Learning and mastering a new habit takes time.
The more students practice, the faster their skills become automatic,
leading to greater academic success in all areas of study.**

Students review words that look and/or sound similar and learn ways to remember which is which.

Words	Book 1 (6th)	Book 2 (7th)	Book 3 (8th)	ACT English	ACT Reading
it's, its	X	X	X	X	
you're, your	X	X	X	X	
they're, their, there	X	X	X	X	
who's, whose	X	X	X	X	
who, whom		X	X	X	
to, too, two	X	X	X	X	
then, than	X	X	X	X	
of, have	X	X	X	X	
sight, cite, site	X	X	X	X	
desert, dessert	X	X	X	X	
capital, capitol	X	X	X	X	
a, an, and	X	X	X	X	
hear, here	X	X		X	
hole, whole	X	X		X	
ally, alley	X	X	X	X	
principal, principle	X		X	X	
except, accept	X		X	X	
were, where	X	X		X	
were, we're	X	X		X	
addition, edition	X		X	X	
are, our	X	X		X	
subsequently, consequently		X	X	X	
complement, compliment		X	X	X	
which, witch	X				
meat, meet	X				
beat, beet	X				
wear, where	X				
hanged, hung		X			
among, between		X			
fewer, less		X		X	
does, dose		X		X	
sweet, sweat		X			
by, bye, buy		X		X	
rite, right, write		X		X	
a lot, allot		X		X	
a way, away		X		X	
aloud, allowed		X		X	
altar, alter		X		X	
break, brake		X		X	
past, passed		X		X	
threw, through		X		X	
do, due		X		X	

Words	Book 1 (6 th)	Book 2 (7 th)	Book 3 (8 th)	ACT English	ACT Reading
fill, feel		x		x	
new, knew		x		x	
piece, peace		x		x	
weather, whether		x		x	
many, much			x	x	
quiet, quite			x	x	
aisle, isle			x	x	
choose, chose			x	x	
heard, herd			x	x	
pole, poll			x	x	
all together, altogether			x	x	
imply, infer			x	x	
stationary, stationery			x	x	
beside, besides			x	x	
led, lead			x	x	
censure, censor			x	x	
cereal, serial			x	x	
course, coarse			x		
defuse, diffuse			x	x	
sit, set			x		
lie, lay			x	x	
rise, raise			x	x	
advise, advice				x	
affect, effect				x	
allusion, illusion				x	
alternate, alternative				x	
amoral, immoral				x	
bait, bate				x	
chord, cord				x	
close, clothes				x	
comprise, compose				x	
conscience, conscious				x	
continual, continuous				x	
council, counsel				x	
cue, queue				x	
ensure, insure				x	
elicit, illicit				x	
hoard, horde				x	
judicious, judicial				x	
loose, lose				x	
perpetrate, perpetuate				x	
pore, pour				x	