



UNIVERSITI
TEKNOLOGI
MARA

Perpustakaan
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Virtual Exhibition

History Of Speed Reading

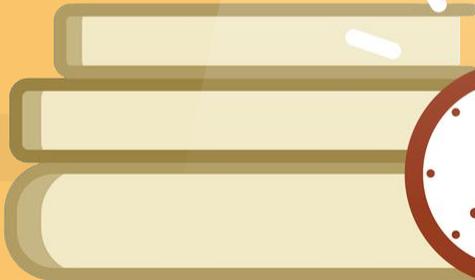


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- Speed Reading Methods
- Calculating Words Per Minute (wpm)
- Conclusion



First Section

- Definition Of Speed Reading



What is Speed Reading?

The dictionary defines speed reading as the ability to “read rapidly by assimilating several phrases or sentences at once.”

Definition of speed reading.

Speed reading is the process of rapidly recognizing and absorbing phrases or sentences on a page all at once, rather than identifying individual words. It is any of several techniques used to improve one's ability to read quickly and involves chunking and minimizing subvocalization.

1. For students especially, this technique can come in handy when your professor asks you to read and digest 100+ pages of textbook material before tomorrow's test.
2. The most boastful speed readers out there today claim they can read at rates upwards of 1,200 words per minute, which is a considerable jump from the average reading rate of 200-400 words per minute.
3. There's some dispute over these claims, but there's no doubt in my mind that there's a considerable gap between 400 and 1,200 words per minute, so it makes me think there's a possibility to improve, even if I never reach a rate close to 1,000 words per minute.
4. Advocates of speed reading believe that the 'sound-it-out approach' that most of us learned when first being taught how to read actually slows us down.
5. In other words, saying each word inside your head as you read it takes time.
6. Thus, speed reading experts claim that abandoning the vocalizing of words (even if we're doing so silently in our heads) is the first key to speed reading.





Second Section

- History Of Speed Reading
 - Evelyn Wood

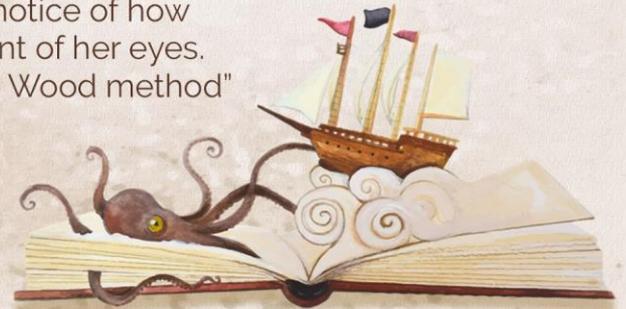


History of speed reading

The first ones to produce an actual course dedicated to speed reading were a group of researchers at Harvard Business School. Their program was based on film-aided material, designed to widen a student's field of focus and thus increase his/her reading speed.

The use of machines to improve reading speed quickly became one of the hot trends of the 50's which in turn led to the study of speed-reading becoming widespread.

The actual term 'speed reading' was not coined until the late 50's. When researcher by the name of Evelyn Wood took notice of how her hand motion had strong relation to the movement of her eyes. The technique she developed was known as the "the Wood method" later referred to as "Reading Dynamics".



Evelyn Wood



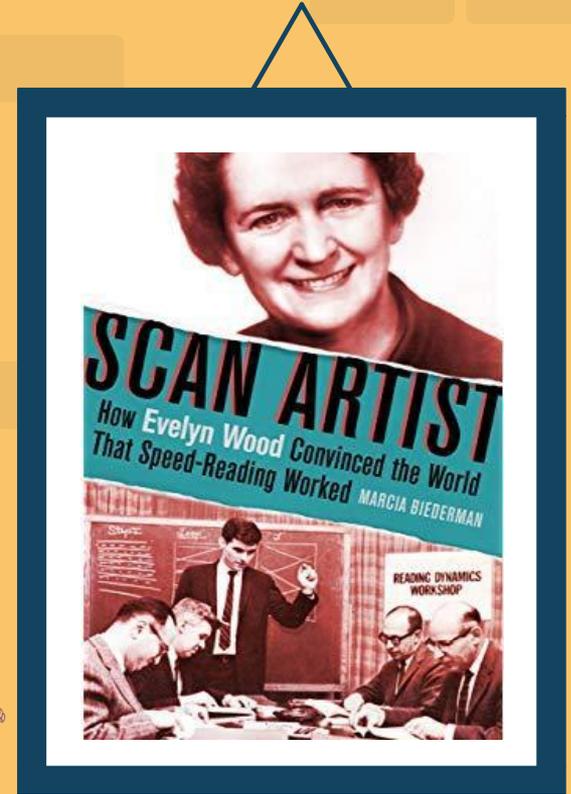
Evelyn Wood

(January 8, 1909 – August 26, 1995)

Evelyn Nielsen Wood was an American Educator and businessperson, popularizing speed reading, although she preferred the phrase widely known for "dynamic reading".

Evelyn Wood

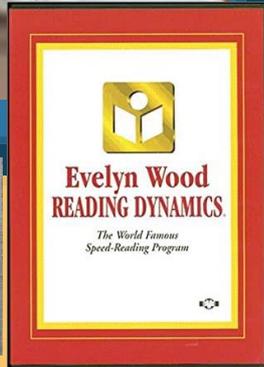
- Evelyn Nielsen Wood was one of the pioneers of speed reading.
- She claimed that she could read up to 2,700 wpm if she swept a finger along the line as she read.
- A researcher and schoolteacher, she was committed to understanding why some people were naturally faster at reading and tried to force herself to read very quickly.



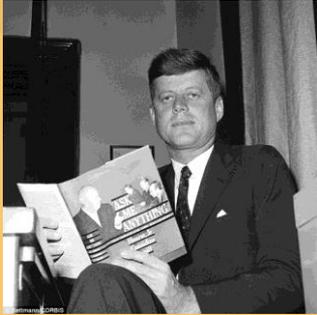
Evelyn Wood



- In 1958, while brushing off the pages of a book she had thrown down in despair,
- she discovered that the sweeping motion of her hand across the page caught the attention of her eyes.
- And helped them move more smoothly across the page. She then used the hand as a pacer.
- Wood first taught the method at the University of Utah, before launching it to the public as Evelyn Wood's Reading Dynamics in Washington, D.C. in 1959.

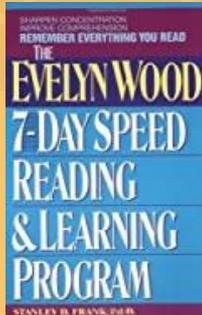
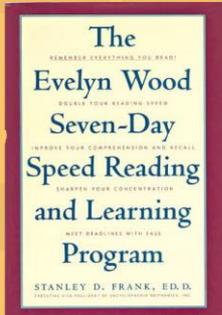


Evelyn Wood



John F. Kennedy

U.S. President John F. Kennedy was a proponent of speed reading, encouraging his staff to take lessons, and he suggested in an interview that he had a reading speed of 1,200 words per minute.



- She is famous for having her methods taught to President John F. Kennedy, who was a strong proponent of speed reading.
- Until the late 1990s, her classes were frequently taught at college campuses throughout the U.S.
- She passed away in 1995 at the age of 86.
- Although speed reading techniques have been refined through the years, the foundations remain the same.
- Speed reading involves reading multiple words at a time in phrases without subvocalizing every word.
- Subvocalization being something that cannot be completely eliminated, but only minimized in order to achieve the ability to speed read.



Third Section

- Speed Reading Methods
- Calculating Words Per Minute (wpm)
- Conclusion



Speed Reading Methods



Meta-Guiding



Scanning & Scamming



Speed
Reading
Methods

Rapid Serial Visual Presentation
(RSVP)



Chunking



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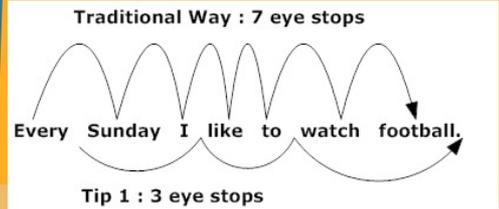
But, why chunk
content?



It helps you present
information in a way
that makes it **easy** for
your audience to
understand and
remember.

Chunking

- A process by which individual pieces of information are bound together into a meaningful whole.
- Train your eyes to see all the words in clusters of up to three or four words at a glance.
- Clustering trains you to look at groups of words and ideas instead of at one at a time. This will increase your speed and comprehension enormously

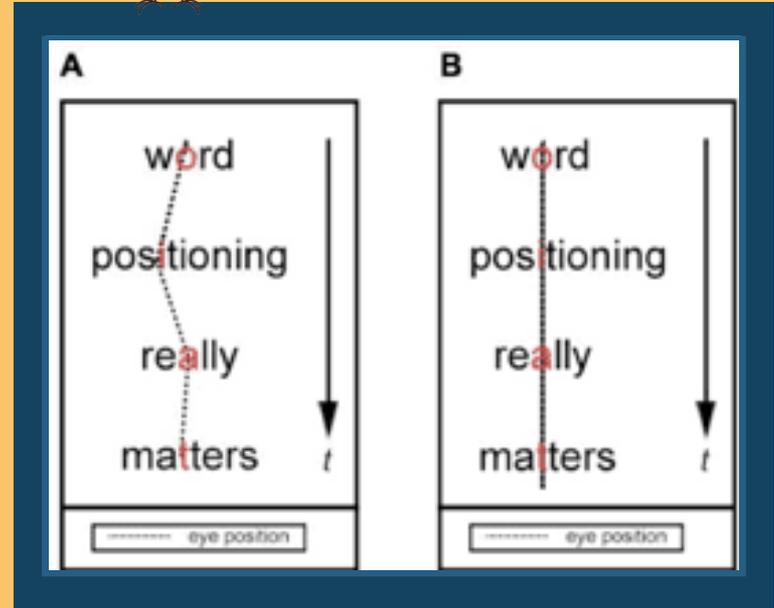


Meta-Guiding

- Known as the Pointer method, and is also sometimes called "hand pacing".
- Meta guiding is an older method of speed reading.
- It involves utilizing a finger or a pointer (such as a pen) to guide your eyes to specific words in a body of text.
- The theory behind meta guiding is that it minimizes distractions and helps you focus on certain words in order to increase your reading speed.
- Another method suggests reading multiple lines of text at a time by expanding your peripheral vision.

Rapid Serial Visualization

- The RSVP method is utilized by newer digital speed reading systems. These systems flash single words on a screen so you're only concentrating on one word at a time.
- As your ability to see and digest these words increases, you can speed up the rate at which the system displays these words. Once such example of an RSVP system is Spritz



Scanning & Scamming

- Skimming and scanning are two specific speedreading techniques, which enable you to cover a vast amount of material very rapidly.
- These techniques are similar in process but different in purpose.

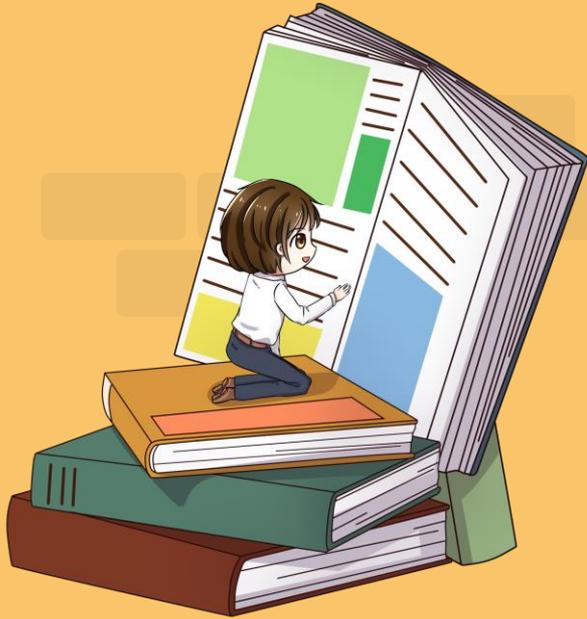


Scanning



- Rapidly covers a great deal of material in order to locate a specific fact or piece of information.
- Scanning is very useful for finding a specific name, date, statistic, or fact without reading the entire article.

Scanning



Process

1. Keep in mind all the times what it is you are searching for.
2. Anticipate in what form the information is likely to appear.
3. Analyze the organization of the content before starting to scan
4. Let your eyes run rapidly over several lines of print at a time
5. When you find the sentence that has the information you seek, read the entire sentence.
6. In scanning, you must be willing to skip over large sections of text without reading or understanding them.
7. Scanning can be done at 1500 or more words per minute.

Skimming

- Is a method of rapidly moving the eyes over text with the purpose of getting only the main ideas and a general overview of the content.
- Skimming can usually be accomplished at about 100 words per minute.

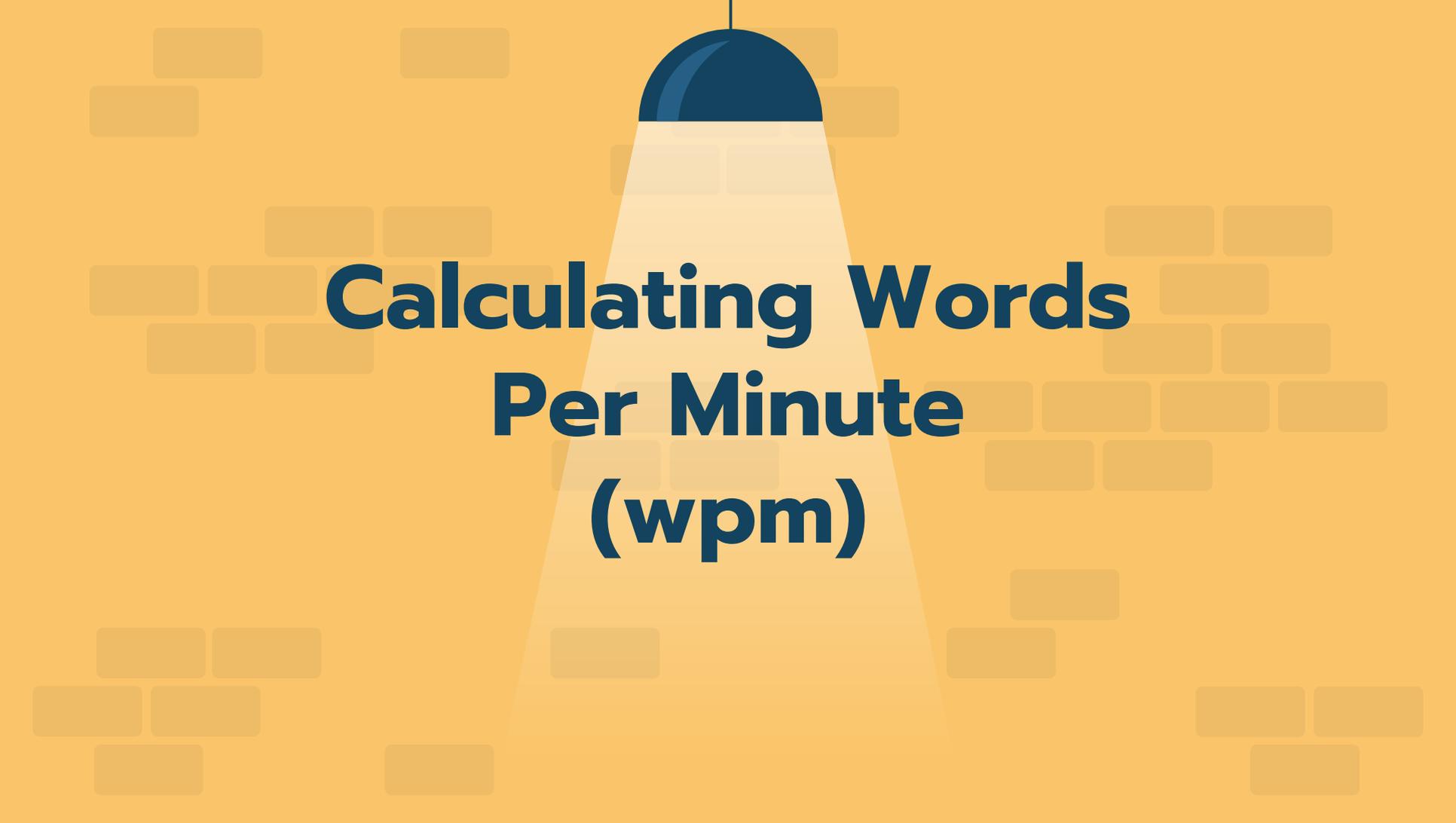


Skimming



Process

1. Read the title .- it is the sortest possible summary of the content Anticipate in what form the information is likely to appear.
2. Read the introduction.
3. Read the firts paragraph completely.
4. Read the subheadings and stablish the relationship among them.
5. Read the firts sentence of each remaining paragraph.
6. Dip into the text looking for:
 - Clue words that answer who, what, when, why, how.
 - Proper nouns.
 - Unusual words, especialy if capitalized.
 - Enumerations.
 - Qualifying adjectives (best, worst, most, etc.).
 - Typographical cues: italics, boldface, underlining, asterisks, etc.
7. Read the final paragraph completely

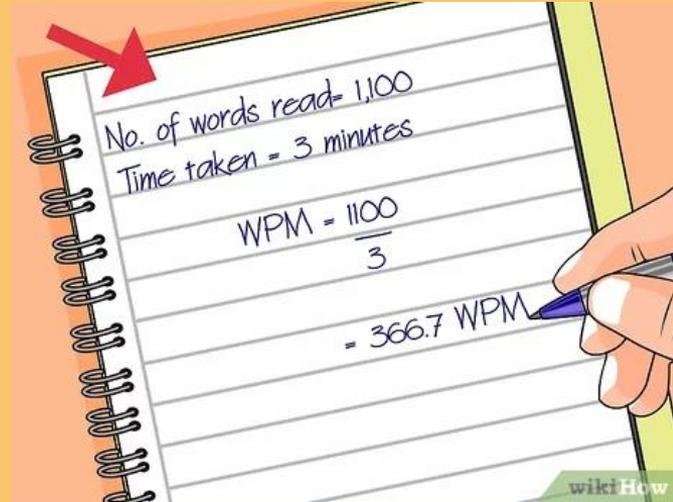


Calculating Words Per Minute (wpm)

Calculating Words Per Minute (wpm)

Assuming you read a passage of 1000 words in 2 minutes and 20 seconds.

- Change the time to seconds = 140 seconds.
- Divide the 1000 by 140 = 7.14
- Multiply by 60 seconds = 428.57
- **Answer is 429 wpm.**



Calculating Words Per Minute (wpm)

-Asses your result

Wpm	Status
Less than 120	Poor or slow
121-180	Below average
181-240	average
241-350	College level if good retention
351-500	Above average
501-1000 Greater than 1000	Superior genius



Conclusion

- Speed reading is undoubtedly a useful skill to learn especially in today's world where it's possible to drown in a sea of information and data.
- Through the years, the ability to speed read has presented big advantages to everyone from politicians to academics to entertainers' intent on reading through long movie scripts, and of course, to the man (and woman) on the street. It is a skill that never goes out of style and which will always greatly benefit anyone who makes the effort to learn it



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Thank You

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