

Reading Log Format - Physics

■ Purpose:

Throughout this course, you will be required to read from textbooks, articles and other handouts. The requirement is to produce a thorough summary of an assigned reading. To a teacher, a summary should show that the student has successfully read and understood the piece, and was able to identify and organize the topics, examples, and conclusion. Much of the content of your text book readings will be discussed in class, but not everything. In order to prepare for these discussions and activities, you will record a summary of each reading as a **Reading Log Entry**.

■ Procedure

Follow the guidelines below as you read the assigned reading:

1. Read the assigned textbook section or article.

- Try to arrange enough time to complete the reading in one session.
- Skim the whole selection once to give you an idea of what is coming ahead.
- Reread a second time more thoroughly.

Follow the guidelines below to write a Reading Log of the assigned reading. Clearly label each of the 3 main sections.

2. Create a Heading.

- Name & Date
- Reading Log Entry: "Chapter 2 section 2-3."

3. Create a Vocabulary List.

- Record words you identified as unclear or unfamiliar as you read.
- Use the textbook to define and record definitions for these words.
- You need at least *three* words.

4. Write a Summary of the reading.

- Write an introductory paragraph that clearly summarizes the theme, topic or main idea presented in the reading.
 - **Identify important information.**
 - a. During your reading, identify the following information:
 1. key topics and the main idea of the article [usually found near the beginning of the reading or paragraph]
 2. important subtopics that support the main idea
 3. words and/or phrases or calculations that you do not fully understand
 4. the author's conclusion [usually found near the end]
 - **Describe all charts, graphs and / or graphics.**
 - a. During your reading, pay careful attention to the charts, graphs and graphics:
 1. Describe the idea that the graph or chart is conveying.
 2. Describe the graphics and give your interpretation of it.
 - **Complete the practice problems in the text sections and answer questions. Check your answers.**
 - **Create notes/questions for further clarification.**
 - a. During your reading of the assigned piece, take notes about the following:
 1. words or phrases that need defining or clarification.
 2. concepts which are confusing.
 3. Questions that go beyond the text.
 4. write down questions about calculations if you do not understand part or all of them.