

St Andrew's High School  
English Department  
Senior Phase Parents' Evening  
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# Reading for UAE Strategies

In addition to reading some of the novels overleaf, you should read a variety of non-fiction such as biographies, autobiographies and articles from quality newspapers.

The SQA often use articles from quality newspapers for the RUAE paper (Close Reading). Unfortunately several newspapers such as The Times and The Herald can only be accessed online if you are willing to pay a subscription charge. However, there are other newspapers such as The Guardian which are free.

Try to read some articles each week, especially those in the Comment / Opinion / Debate sections as not only will this help your RUAE skills but will also help you when it comes to writing your discursive (persuasive or argumentative) essay for your Writing Portfolio.

Here are some strategies which you could use to improve your RUAE skills:

- 1 When reading the passage for the first time, try to think about the writer's **PAL**:  
**Purpose** – to reflect, argue, persuade, entertain, criticise, shock, mock etc  
**Audience** – general public, teenagers, mothers of new babies, scientists etc  
**Language** – the words, images, structures and tones used to help achieve the purpose and which are suitable for the particular audience.
- 2 As you read the passage you should underline any words you do not understand. Find out the meaning of these words and, if appropriate, try to incorporate them into your next piece of writing.
- 3 In terms of **Understanding** *what* the passage is about, write a 50 word summary in your own words.
- 4 In terms of **Analysis** of *how* the passage is written, use TQC (Technique, Quotation and Comment) for techniques such as word choice, imagery, sentence structure, tone and writer's language.
- 5 In terms of **Evaluation** of *how well* the passage is written, make a note of the effectiveness of the introduction and conclusion.

Repeat these strategies for various articles and share your findings with your parents, friends and teachers.

Remember, both papers in the exam have the word 'Reading' in the title for a reason. You need to READ!