

TABLE OF CATEGORIES FOR READING COMPREHENSION

The table describes the four reading categories assessed in English 12 Reading Comprehension.

READING CATEGORIES
Retrieve Information (RI) The reader locates information that is found in the text. No inferences or interpretations are required. The information is usually contained within a phrase or sentence.
Recognize Meaning (RM) The reader uses information provided in the text and understands an equivalent statement or reformulates it in her/his own words. The reader comprehends the use of literary and stylistic terms and devices. The information is usually contained within a phrase or sentence.
Interpret Texts (IT) The reader integrates ideas and information to show an understanding or interpretation. The information may be implicit and open to interpretation. Information may need to be inferred, “filled-in” or linked across parts of a text. The information is generally derived across the text, but may sometimes be found in a word or sentence.
Analyze Texts (AT) The reader takes a stance, evaluating and making judgments about aspects of the text or the author’s purpose, perspective, craft and effectiveness. The evaluation may focus on personal reactions and opinions, or on critical analysis. The evaluation may require information to be integrated or transformed. The reader may make connections with other texts, or synthesize information from multiple texts.

The following diagram illustrates that the four categories in the table are interconnected. Subsequent categories subsume the preceding categories. For example, although closely related, “retrieving information” is generally a prerequisite to “recognizing meaning.”

