



ScholarSkills Clues: Reading & Understanding



4709 Ave. N (between E. 48th St. and Schenectady Ave.)
For more information about homework help, call us: (718) 258-4647

To improve **Reading Comprehension**, your child(ren) should memorize the following **5** questions to ask *while* reading:

1. **Main Idea.** What is the main idea of the passage?
2. **Author's Purpose.** What is the author's purpose in writing the passage?
3. **Cause and Effect.** What was the cause of an event in the passage? Or, what happened because of another event?
4. **Sequencing.** In what order did the events, concepts, or statements occur?
5. **Words in Context.** What does a word mean in the context of a sentence or paragraph in the passage?

Memorizing **Latin and Greek roots, prefixes**, and **suffixes** would also help. Here are some common examples:

Latin Prefix	Meaning	Examples
ab, a	From, down, away	abstract, aversion
circum, circa	Around, about	circumference
de	From, down	deplete, depress
di, dis, dif	Away, from	different, disburse
intra, into	Within, inside of	intramural, interstate

The 8 Parts of Speech

1. **What are nouns?** Nouns are naming words, and are usually a person, place, or thing. We use them to say what we are talking about, and they name the subject of a sentence.
2. **What is a pronoun?** A pronoun stands in for a noun. If the noun were *Susan*, the pronoun that takes its place would be *she*.
3. **What is a verb?** A verb is a word or group of words that shows action, helps show when an action will take place, or connects a noun or pronoun to words that show its condition. Verbs are action, helping, linking, and being words.
4. **What is a preposition?** A preposition is a word that partners with a noun or pronoun to create a phrase that gives more details or answers questions about a verb or noun. Examples are *above*, *below*, *during to*, or *before*. Prepositions describe time or place.
5. **What is an adverb?** An adverb is a word or group of words that gives us more information about a verb, another adverb, or an adjective. Adverbs answer the following questions about verbs: Verb where? Verb when? Verb why? Verb to what extent? Verb how? How much? How often?
6. **What is an adjective?** An adjective is a word or group of words that gives us more information about a noun. Adjectives tell what kind of noun (color, shape, size), which noun, or how many of a noun.
7. **What are conjunctions?** Conjunctions are connecting words. They help us create connections between words and groups of words in sentences. Common conjunctions are *for*, *and*, *nor*, *but*, *or*, *yet*, and *so*.
8. **What are interjections?** Interjections express powerful emotions such as surprise, celebration, and pain.





ScholarSkills Clues: Solving Math Problems



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Your child(ren) should not only memorize math facts but also practice mentally solving addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division problems using flash cards.

Math Facts Your Child Should Know:

Fractions and Percentages

$1/2 = 50\%$	$1/4 = 25\%$	$2/5 = 40\%$	$1/8 = 12.5\%$	$7/8 = 87.5\%$
$1/3 = 33.3\%$	$3/4 = 75\%$	$3/5 = 60\%$	$3/8 = 37.5\%$	$1/10 = 10\%$
$2/3 = 66.7\%$	$1/5 = 20\%$	$4/5 = 80\%$	$5/8 = 62.5\%$	$5/10 = 50\%$

Geometry Formulas

Area of a **rectangle** = length (l) x width (w)

Area of a **parallelogram** = base (b) x height (h)

Area of a **square** = side (s) x side (s)

Area of a **circle** = $\pi \times (\text{radius } (r) \times \text{radius } (r))$, or πr^2

Area of a **triangle** = $1/2 \times (\text{base } (b) \times \text{height } (h))$

Word Problems: Solving math word problems can be both a challenging and rewarding activity. They help students to see math in the real world, and they encourage them to learn the underlying concepts and operations.

Quick Tips:

1. **Read the question carefully.** Depending on the complexity and length of the problem, you may need to re-read it at least once to fully understand it.
2. **Highlight key words.** Language and phrases are important. Underline or use a highlighter, or take notes in the margin.
3. **Ignore irrelevant information.** Sometimes a problem includes information that is not directly related, or that does not help you answer it.
4. **Complete all of the steps.** In some multi-step problems, you may be tempted to stop before all the steps are complete. Don't forget to complete the *entire* problem! (Remember to read it carefully – do you know what it is asking?)
5. **Write your answer in full.** For example, if the question asks, "How many runs did John score?" answer, "John scored 8 runs." Don't just write the number 8!
6. **Show your work.** This will help when you check your answer. Even if you get the final solution wrong, showing your work may help you earn some credit for correct calculations.
7. **Check to see if your answer makes sense.** Ask yourself whether your answer should be a bigger or smaller number than what you started with. Check your answer.

Your child's education is key to his or her future. Call us or email contactme@scholarskills.com today!
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