

Tips for Reading Graphic Texts

SCAN

1. Read the title and headings.

The title tells you what the graphic is about. The captions (text near the image) may also use words and phrases from the text to show how the graphic is related to the information in the written text.

2. Read the graphics before the text.

Read all of the labels and examine how they are related to the graphic. Each label has a purpose. The most important labels may be in CAPITAL LETTERS, **bold type**, or a larger font. Follow the arrows and lines. They may be used to show movement or direction, or connect to the things they name.

*Some graphic texts have a legend or a key to explain the meaning of specific symbols and colours.

FOCUS

3. **Read the text.** Turn the headings into questions; then read for the answer to these questions.

4. **Pay attention to what the text says about a graphic.**

REVIEW

5. **Reread the title, headings and graphics.**

RETELL

6. **In your own words, say what the text is about.** Now say it in one or two sentences. Imagine that you are explaining the graphic to someone who has not read it.

REFLECT

7. **Reflect on what the text made you think and feel.**