

Aristotle's "Ten Categories of Being" for Mental Imagery and Comprehension

Reading comprehension is the ability to "see pictures/images" of what you're reading. "What did you see happening?" Keep each of these areas in mind when reading to increase your understanding and memory: * Think about an animal: What kind? (substance) size and weight (quantity) color, shape, abilities (quality) similarities or differences to other animals, relationships (relation), performance (action) response to other animals or environment (reaction) habitat and seasonal changes/lifespan (place and time) how it moves (posture), features/traits of antlers, fur, hooves, feathers (possessions). Write on color-coded index cards and draw pictures for an oral or written report.

- **Substance/What/Who:** "What is the main thing or person you see?"
- **Quantity/Number:** "How many do you see?" "How much?"
- **Quality/Size, Shape, Color, Smell, Sound, Taste, Texture:** "How big?" "What color(s) do you see?" "Describe the shapes you see."
- **Relation:** "Is this your friend?" "How close or how far?"
- **Action:** "What do you see them doing? What do you hear?" (talking, singing, yelling, etc.)
- **Feelings/Reaction/Passion:** "How does he look like he feels?" (angry, sad, happy, etc.)
- **Time/When:** "When do you see this happening? Morning, night, year, season?"
- **Position/Posture:** "Is he standing? Leaning forward?"
- **Place/Where:** "Where do you see him? "What else do you see
- **Clothing/Accessories/Possessions:** "What is he wearing or carrying?"

