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**TO ENHANCE STUDENTS READING ABILITY ESPECIALLY IN THE SCHOOL  
CURRICULUM THROUGH THE USE OF INTENSIVE & EXTENSIVE READING  
TECHNIQUE**

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**Ms. R. Subhashini,**

Ph.D. Research Scholar (Full-Time),  
Department of English, Presidency College,  
Chennai.

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Abstract

In the current scenario, reading has come to hold the most significant place in education and in all sectors as a means of communication in a highly literate society. The paper mainly focusses on the nature, purpose, and benefits of reading. Reading is one of the major skills that students need to master from their school level. This paper mainly reveals that what are the outcomes may occur while implementing through the use of the intensive reading technique. Reading is important for acquiring knowledge and information. To improve the reading ability the next level also plays an important role.

Keywords: *reading, intensive reading, extensive reading, vocabulary, fluency and reading comprehension*

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Introduction:

In the current scenario, reading has come to hold the most significant place in education and in all sectors as a means of communication in a highly literate society. Reading is a language process that involves a dialogue between the reader and the text. Reading is one of the major skills that students need to master from their school level. In the modern age of information, reading is a means of language acquisition of communication and sharing information and ideas.

Lawrence. E. Hafner gave some views of communication in education:

- Reading material is readily accessible
- The reader can react as an individual
- Information is easily rechecked
- Reading allows time for reflection
- One can readily skim a wide range of material
- There are many online activities related to language learning

- Each individual can select materials according to their own choice
- Memories can be renewed

In this information age, each and everyone is in the reading world. Today there are plenty of reading materials. In this jet age, it has become all the more important to process a big bulk of information of wide variety through reading. It involves the use of the eye and mind.

Betts opinion about the reading:

"It is a process rather than a subject. Since reading is primarily a thinking process, reading ability cannot be fully developed in primary school".

Purpose Of Reading:

Reading is a tool and an active experience. Anyone who is truly reading is grasping, seizing something and working with it. The desire to read is the desire to know and gather the information. When we read more we learn more. Reading is merely a complex process.

Russell opinion about reading that:

“reading is a subtle and complex act which involves more or less simultaneously, the following: sensation of light rays on the retina of the eye reaching the brain, perception of separate words and phrases, functioning of the eye muscles with exact controls, immediate memory for what has just been read, remote memories based on the reader’s experience, interest in the context read, and organization of the material so that finally it can be used in some way.”

Benefits Of Reading:

- It creates a habit of reading.
- Improves & creator power of thinking.
- It provides to achieve a general understanding of a text
- It enhances a more positive attitude towards reading and language learning.
- It generally increases learner’s motivation & confidence.
- It helps to build learner’s vocabulary, fluency & comprehension
- It shapes an individual personality
- It makes an independent reader.
- It discovers new things
- Reading develops the imagination

The reading texts are graded in terms of vocabulary and structure and it is divided into intensive reading text and extensive reading text.

Intensive Reading:

Intensive reading is a detailed reading. It occurs when the learner is focused on the language rather than the text. Intensive reading is done while the students try to gather or arrive at some conclusions on the basis of the facts. This is done mostly when the students prepare for

the examinations. This kind of reading is done with thinking and comprehension. It is otherwise known as 'critical reading' or 'reading for comprehension.

The Outcomes While Implementing The Intensive Reading Technique:

- It is a detailed reading with the short text
- It helps the learner to know new words and develop their vocabulary level
- Reading between lines and beyond the lines
- It is usually done with difficult texts with many unknown words that required to use a dictionary
- It develops the learner concentration
- It provides motivation and self-confidence
- it enhances
- it develops a thinking process
- reading for detailed comprehension and long retention
- reading speed is rather slow

Extensive Reading:

Extensive reading is a kind of wide reading based on the large field where from the learner gather the desired information for the purpose of his/her own survey or report. most of the time, it would be silent reading and at this level that the speed of reading begins to increase. It is a kind of reading for pleasure and the learner can choose the text like novels, journals, magazines, reports, and newspapers. The students start reading independently at this stage. The reading at this stage is need-based and hence the reading development should be multi-dimensional in nature. This kind of reading also known as 'Reading for Information'.

Peregoy and Boyle refer to this aspect:

"wide reading increases general knowledge, which in turn facilitates comprehension when reading texts of all kinds, including content area texts".

The Outcomes While Implementing The Extensive Reading Technique:

- It enhances general language proficiency and competence
- It improves reading comprehension and vocabulary knowledge
- Students will use strategies from their natural language to learn content in English
- Writing proficiency also impacted by reading extensively
- It provides a valuable opportunity for language learning
- Students who read extensively learn the reading method and increase their reading rate

- It is a kind of reading for pleasure
- It helps to improve general knowledge

It increases reading speed

Next Level:

To improve the reading ability the text level also plays an important role in language learning. Reading is a great source of comprehensible input that promotes second language acquisition and it is an important vehicle for content-area learning. At the same time, it also provides a strong foundation for writing development.

This modern age, students have access to a wide range of texts across content areas about difficult topics in different genres at different reading levels. The teachers should know the student's ability and select texts to read and that may support specific instructional purposes, but the student's choice is also very important. Reading is also an entry point for addressing the goals of multicultural education.

Conclusion:

Reading plays an important role in our day-to-day life. It is also an important aspect in the life of students. Reading is much more than a mere word, phrase or even sentence recognition. It is an educational phenomenon and has got its unique pedagogy. To conclude, reading is a continuous process to acquire knowledge around the world.

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