



FCE Reading Part 2 Activity – teacher’s notes

Description

A guided activity to help students with Part 2 of the FCE Reading paper.

Time required: 30-45 minutes

Additional materials required:

- a Reading Part 2 task

Aims:

- to give students an overview of the different question types in Part
- to raise their awareness of how to approach this section of Paper

Procedure

1. Tell students they are going to look at Part 2 of the FCE Reading paper.
2. Give each student a copy of the worksheet and ask them to read the introduction.
3. Students read through the questions and discuss in pairs/small groups the best strategy for each one. Now ask them to complete the task, following the strategies they chose. It’s a good idea to set a time limit of 20 minutes for this task.
4. Ask students to compare their answers and to discuss in pairs/small groups how effective the strategies they chose were. Monitor and give assistance if necessary. It’s very useful to see how each student approaches these tasks.
5. Collect some feedback as to how students approached the tasks. Summarise useful strategies on the board. This is a very important stage and is an opportunity to tell students how they should approach Part 2 (see key below for ideas).
6. Check the answers to the tasks and deal with any queries.

Additional information

- Train students in skim reading skills to read through the text quickly before starting
- Train students to pay attention to pronouns in the extracts, and check what they refer to in the text
- Train students to use any conjunctions or phrases to help them
- Train students to watch out for verb tenses and make sure the sequence is logical
- Give plenty of intensive practice looking at coherence and cohesion of texts
- Encourage students to check that answers fit both the preceding and subsequent text
- Train students to read the whole text through when they have finished, to check for inconsistencies
- Set time limits so students allow themselves enough time for this section, but not so much as to detract from the other parts of the paper

Suggested follow-up activities/questions (and answers)

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Give students a complete Part 2 to try under timed conditions (20 minutes), with everyone using the established best method.



FCE Reading Part 2 Activity – answer keys

Key to Student's worksheet

- 1 Should you quickly read through the main body of the text first?
A Yes.

Reading through the base text first gives candidates a sense of what it is about, how the ideas are developed, how many key characters there are, etc. Getting this initial feel for the text will help candidates be more aware of the text as a whole.

- 2 What reading approach should you take for this task?
A Intensive, reading the text carefully around each gap.

This task requires intensive reading. Candidates will have to read the text both before and after each gap carefully before arriving at an answer.

- 3 Once you've completed all the gaps, should you read through the whole text again?
A Yes.

This is an important way of checking that the text flows coherently as a whole. This final checking process may help to alert candidates to answers which don't sit well in the text.

- 4 Do you think this part of the test will take longer to complete than others?
A Yes.

In the light of comments 1–3, the answer to this is probably yes.

Key to Sample Task

9. F 10. H 11. C 12. A 13. E 14. B 15. G



FCE Reading Part 2 Activity – Student’s worksheet

Look at a Reading Part 2 task, and answer the following questions. With another student, discuss the best answer for each question.

- 1 Should you quickly read through the main body of the text first?

A Yes.
B No.

- 2 What reading approach should you take for this task?

A Intensive, reading the text carefully around each gap.
B Scanning, looking for specific words or phrases to help me fill the gaps.

- 3 Once you’ve completed all the gaps, should you read through the whole text again?

A Yes.
B No.

- 4 Do you think this part of the test will take longer to complete than others?

A Yes.
B No.

Now try the Reading Part 2 task, and decide whether the approach you chose was a good one for you.