

# Reading Test-Taking Strategies

## 1. Read the questions first!

- Underline key words.
- Paraphrase the question in the margin.
- If the question is asking about a specific person/character, circle their name so you will remember to tune in when you see it in the text.
- If there are more than 6 questions, read the passage first.

## 2. Read the passage.

- Box words you don't know the meaning of, and then look for context clues around them to help you write a definition.
- Underline the main idea, and write "MI" next to it.
- Underline any information that will help you answer the questions.

## 3. Read the questions again.

- Cross out any answer choices that are *definitely* wrong.
- Go back to the passage and find evidence to support the best answer.  
Write the number of the question next to the evidence you found.

## 4. Double-check your evidence for ALL questions before moving on to the next passage.

- If it's a vocabulary question, plug in the word— does it make sense?
- Does your evidence support the BEST possible answer choice?

## 5. Remember to pace yourself and take breaks! Close your test book and rest after every couple of passages!