

# Making the most of reading texts



Girl reading at the bus stop by Dave Mears on flickr

Ceri Jones  
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# Making the most of what?

to carry new titles and a £10,000 contribution" for room to stock material in its stores.

Then, at the meeting, Asda laid down on those demands as well as blaming the episode on the naivety of a staff member, who had previously been a buyer overseeing electrical goods. She simply treated her new responsibility



# How? When?

before reading

creating reading tasks

focusing on form

following up

revisiting



BEFORE READING



# Working with headlines

- spelling dictation
- whispered / mumbled dictation
- jumbled / jigsawed / gapped



# Working with headlines

T-H-E R-E-S T-L-E S-S-M I-N-D



# Working with headlines

THE | RESTLESS | MIND

A



# Working with headlines

THE | RESTLESS | MIND

LAZY  
CURIOUS

...





# Working with headlines

THE | RESTLESS | MIND  
PERSON



# Working with key words

human brain  
development  
memory  
dreams



# Key words in sentences

human brain  
development  
memory  
dreams

Debates are on-going over  
the \_\_\_\_\_ of the \_\_\_\_\_  
and the role of \_\_\_\_\_ and  
\_\_\_\_\_ in consciousness



# Working with first sentences



# Working with first sentences

era fading in memorisation  
digital away is



# Working with first sentences

A: practice lucid true



# Working with first sentences

A: practice lucid true

B: dreaming wishes come



# Working with first sentences

A: practice lucid true

B: dreaming wishes come

The \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ can make  
\_\_\_\_\_ .





# CREATING READING TASKS



# Asking questions



# Asking questions



# My family's experiment in extreme schooling



# My family's experiment in extreme schooling

Whose family is it?

What kind of experiment was it?

Why did they conduct the experiment?

What was extreme about the schooling?

Where did the experiment take place?

When did the experiment take place?

Was it successful?



# My family's experiment in extreme schooling

Whose family is it?

What kind of experiment was it?

Why did they conduct the experiment?

What was extreme about the schooling?

Where did the experiment take place?

When did the experiment take place?

Why was the article written?

Who is it written for?



# My family's experiment in extreme schooling

[http://www.nytimes.com/2011/09/18/magazine/my-familys-experiment-in-extreme-schooling.html?pagewanted=all&\\_r=0](http://www.nytimes.com/2011/09/18/magazine/my-familys-experiment-in-extreme-schooling.html?pagewanted=all&_r=0)



# Reader response code





# Reader response code

☹ if you feel sympathy for the people involved

☺ if you agree with the decisions taken

! or ? if there's anything else that strikes you as interesting – or puzzles you



# Exploring themes and threads



# Exploring themes and threads

- the parents' decisions
- the kids' reactions
- the parents' reactions
- the school



# Exploring themes and threads

- the parents' decisions
- the kids' reactions
- the parents' reactions
- the school

## Exploring lexical sets

- emotional reactions
- ...



# FOCUSING ON FORM



# Focusing on form: gap fills



# Focusing on form: gap fills

Most foreign correspondents, like expatriates \_\_\_\_\_ general, place their children \_\_\_\_\_ international schools. Yet sending them \_\_\_\_\_ a local school seemed \_\_\_\_\_ us \_\_\_\_\_ an inspiring idea. After all, children supposedly pick up language quickly. So what if mine did not speak a word \_\_\_\_\_ Russian and could not find Russia \_\_\_\_\_ a map?



# Focusing on form: verbs





# Focusing on form: verbs

Julie and I talked. I wondered whether it might be better if I went to the school and persuaded Arden to stay until the end of the day, if only in a quiet room, reading a book in English. Julie wanted her picked up, reasoning that it would be smarter to start fresh tomorrow. I didn't want to argue about it. When I found her at school, she brightened. It was as if she were being rescued.



# Focusing on sentences



# Focusing on sentences

to school wanted I  
give to the time  
more



# Focusing on sentences

to school wanted I  
give to the time  
more

I wanted to give the school  
more time



# Focusing on sentences

school wanted I  
give the time more



# FOLLOWING UP



# Following up

- competitive summaries
- identifying key words
- writing discussion questions
- ...



# REVISITING





# Reconstructing sentences



# Reconstructing sentences

phone / ring / stomach / clench /  
hear / voice. “Daddy / home”  
say / 8-year-old daughter,  
Arden.

Arden / spend / minutes between  
class periods / hide / bathroom /  
no one / see / cry.



# More revisiting

- Simply retelling
- Recalling key words
- Retelling from key words / first sentences
- Revisiting student-created exercises
- Dictating/dictoglossing an extract/paragraph from the text
- ...



# Making the most of reading texts



[www.cerij.wordpress.com/workshops](http://www.cerij.wordpress.com/workshops)  
@cerirhiannon

