

1. Paragraph Shrinking

Paragraph shrinking is designed to enhance comprehension through summarization and main idea identification. Partners take turns reading new text (rather than the same text as above). The listening partner asks the reader: (a) "Who or what was the paragraph mainly about?" and (b) "Tell the most important thing about the who or what." The reader must summarize this information in 10 or fewer words. If the listener decides that the reader has made a paragraph summary error, he or she directs the reader to skim the paragraph and try again. If they still don't have the answer, the listener provides it. If the error involves using more than 10 words, the listener says, "Shrink it." Partners switch roles after five minutes.

References

Rathvon, Natalie (2008). *Effective School Intervention: Evidence-Based Strategies for Improving Student Outcomes*. New York, NY: Guilford Press.