

# Agriculture

## Using the comprehension strategy cards

### Purpose

The purpose of this resource is to develop learners' abilities to use reading comprehension strategies. The cards provided below are designed to be used in a variety of ways for two purposes. The first is to clearly state particular strategies to the learners. The second is to encourage learners to use them. It is important to introduce reading comprehension strategies one by one, and ensure learners have plenty of practice using a strategy before you introduce the next, so make sure you familiarise your learners with these strategies one by one before you introduce the cards. A good way of introducing the strategies is to model them, talk them through how you would use the strategy.

### Content

Each of the eleven cards below has a single reading comprehension strategy on it. There is a multitude of strategies, and these are simply some of the more commonly used. A blank card has been included if you wish to add your own.

### Activities

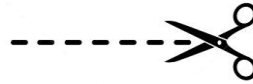
The cards can be used many different ways. Two methods of use are included in the resource [Agriculture: Developing strategic reading skills](#). An example activity is described below.

1. Prepare a set of cards for each group of learners.
2. Have learners place cards face down on the table.
3. Hand out a text to learners. The learners will have to use a strategy with that text.
4. Learners turn the top two cards over. They discuss as a group which of the two strategies they will use.
  - If they agree, they must use this strategy with the text.
  - If they don't agree, they may select one more card at random. But, no matter what the strategy, they must use it.
5. All the groups apply the strategies to the text and then give feedback on it.

#### Key questions to facilitate feedback may include:

1. What specifically did you have to do?
2. Did the strategy make you think about the text?
3. Did the strategy make reading the text easier or more difficult?
4. Do you think the strategy has helped you to think more deeply about the content of the text?

## Comprehension strategy cards



Highlight key words and replace them with others



Read headings and/or topic sentences and predict what the text will be about (then check if you are right)



Skim read the text and make a guess about what will be in it



Identify the writer's main claim and then look for evidence provided



Summarise the writer's opinion as stated in the summary



Read the first sentence of each paragraph



Find the main ideas in the introduction paragraphs



Write a summary of the most important paragraph



Rewrite topic sentences as questions and answer the questions using the text



Sketch a flowchart that describes the process



Change headings and subheadings into questions

