

## INTRODUCTION

**Prism Reading is a five-level reading series for beginning- to advanced-level students of North American English.** Its five levels are designed to equip students with reading skills, strategies, and language needed to be successful both inside and outside of the college classroom.

**Prism Reading uses a fresh approach to Critical Thinking based on a full integration of Bloom's taxonomy to help students become well-rounded critical thinkers.** Students are guided up Bloom's framework by carefully scaffolded tasks and activities. Following each receptive task, there are critical thinking questions that help students build necessary cognitive skills. Each question is highlighted with the corresponding Bloom's level, or cognitive domain. Each domain corresponds to measurable verbs.

Remember	Understand	Apply	Analyze	Evaluate	Create
name describe relate find list write	compare discuss restate predict translate outline	show complete use classify illustrate solve	explain contrast examine identify investigate categorize	decide rate choose recommend justify assess prioritize	create invent plan compose construct design imagine

**Prism Reading focuses on the most relevant and important language for students of academic English based on comprehensive research.** Key vocabulary is taken from the General Service List, the Academic Word List, and the Cambridge English Corpus. The grammar selected is also corpus-informed.

**Prism Reading goes beyond language and critical thinking skills to teach students how to be successful, engaged college students both inside and outside of the classroom.** Collaborative tasks extend the readings and require students to apply newly learned skills in a new, fresh scenario. Students work with their peers on culminating tasks that require them to engage more deeply with the content and their academic community.

**Prism Reading combines print and digital solutions for the modern student and program.** Online workbooks build 21<sup>st</sup>-century skills through additional graded language and skills practice in the Cambridge Learning Management System (CLMS). Video and audio resources are available to students and teachers in the same platform. Presentation Plus gives teachers modern tools to enhance their students' learning environment in the classroom.

**Prism Reading provides assessment resources for the busy teacher.** Photocopiable unit quizzes and answer keys are included in the Teacher's Manual, with downloadable PDF and Word versions available online to registered teachers.

### SERIES LEVELS

Level	Description	CEFR Levels
<i>Prism Reading Intro</i>	Beginner	A1
<i>Prism Reading 1</i>	Low Intermediate	A2
<i>Prism Reading 2</i>	Intermediate	B1
<i>Prism Reading 3</i>	High Intermediate	B2
<i>Prism Reading 4</i>	Advanced	C1

# PATH TO BETTER LEARNING



## CLEAR LEARNING OBJECTIVES

Every unit begins with clear learning objectives aligned to common syllabi in Academic English Programs.



## RICH CONTENT

Themes are current and engage learners. Opening images and discussion questions serve as a springboard for the unit.



## SCAFFOLDED INSTRUCTION

Activities and tasks are scaffolded and move learners up Bloom's taxonomy. Students work from the *remember* stage to the *create* stage.



## COLLABORATIVE TASKS

Critical thinking is followed up by collaborative tasks and activities. Students are asked to apply new knowledge. Tasks are project-based and require students to work together, research, and present. Tasks are representative of activities students will encounter in an academic program.



## CRITICAL THINKING

Receptive activities conclude with critical thinking questions. These questions are organized by Bloom's taxonomy and allow learners to seamlessly move up the domains.

# BETTER LEARNING



## EXTENDED LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

Task-based projects and Cambridge Learning Management System activities offer students an opportunity to learn outside of the classroom. The Cambridge LMS is ideal for the FLIPPed classroom, or blended instruction.

## TEACHING SUGGESTIONS

### UNIT OPENER

Each unit opens with a striking two-page photo related to the theme, a Learning Objectives box, and an Activate Your Knowledge activity.

#### PURPOSE

- To introduce and generate interest in the unit theme with an engaging visual
- To set the learning objectives for the unit
- To make connections between students' background knowledge and the unit topic/theme

#### TEACHING SUGGESTIONS

### PHOTO SPREAD

Lead an open class discussion on the connection between the unit opener photo and theme. Start off with questions like:

- *What is the first thing you notice in the photographs?*
- *What do you think of when you look at the photo?*
- *How is the photo connected to the unit title?*

### ACTIVATE YOUR KNOWLEDGE

After students work in pairs to discuss the questions, have volunteers share with the class answers to the questions that generated the most discussion.

You can also use the exercise to practice fluency. Instruct students to answer the questions as quickly as possible without worrying about creating grammatically correct sentences. Keep time and do not allow students more than 15–60 seconds per answer, depending on level and complexity of the question. You can then focus on accuracy when volunteers share their answers with the class.

### READING

Each unit includes two reading passages that provide different angles, viewpoints, and/or genres related to the unit theme.

### READING 1

Reading 1 includes a reading passage on an academic topic. It provides information on the unit theme, and it gives students exposure to and practice with language and reading skills.

### PREPARING TO READ

#### PURPOSE

- To prepare students to understand the content of the reading
- To introduce, review, and/or practice key pre-reading skills
- To introduce and build key academic and thematic vocabulary for the reading

#### TEACHING SUGGESTIONS

Encourage students to complete the pre-reading activities in this section in pairs or groups. This will promote a high level of engagement. Once students have completed the activities, check for understanding and offer any clarification.

Encourage or assign your students to keep a vocabulary notebook for new words. This should include new key vocabulary words, parts of speech, definitions (in the students' own words), and contextual sentences. To extend the vocabulary activity in this section, ask students to find synonyms, antonyms, or related terms for the vocabulary items they just practiced. These can then be added to their vocabulary notebooks. Key vocabulary exercises can also be assigned ahead of time so that you can focus on the reading content and skills in class.

If there is a Skills box in this section, draw students' attention to the particular strategy that they should employ during the reading.

If time permits, have students scan Reading 1 for the key vocabulary just practiced in bold and read the sentences with each term. This will provide additional pre-reading scaffolding.

## WHILE READING

### PURPOSE

- To introduce, review, and/or practice key academic reading skills
- To practice reading comprehension, note-taking, and annotation skills
- To see and understand key vocabulary in a natural academic context
- To provide information and stimulate ideas on an academic topic
- To help students become more efficient readers

### TEACHING SUGGESTIONS

Have students work in pairs or small groups to complete the activities. Students should always be prepared to support their answers from the text, so encourage them to annotate the text as they complete the activities. After students complete the activities, have volunteers share their answers with the class, along with support from the text. If necessary, facilitate clarification by referring back to the text yourself. Use guided questions to help with understanding. For example: *Take a moment to review the final sentences of Paragraph 2. What words discuss a problem?*

If there is a Skills box in this section, draw students' attention to the particular strategy that they should employ during the reading.

## READING BETWEEN THE LINES

### PURPOSE

- To introduce, expand on, and/or practice key reading skills related to students' ability to infer meaning, text type, purpose, audience, etc.
- To introduce, review, and/or practice key critical thinking skills applied to content from the reading passage

### TEACHING SUGGESTIONS

Have students complete the activities in pairs or small groups and share their answers with the class. It is particularly important for students to be able to support their answers using the text at this point. Encourage students to work out any partial or wrong answers by asking a series of clear, guided questions like: *You thought the author meant ... What about this sentence in the reading? What information does it give us? Does this sentence change your mind about your answer?*

After checking answers, survey students on what they found most challenging in the section. Then have students read the text again for homework, making additional annotations and notes on the challenging skills and content to be shared at the beginning of the next class or in an online forum.

If there is a Skills box in this section, draw students' attention to the particular strategy that they should employ while making inferences.

## CRITICAL THINKING

### PURPOSE

- To think critically about the content of the reading
- To give students the opportunity to move up Bloom's Taxonomy while interacting with content from the reading
- To extend content presented in the reading

### TEACHING SUGGESTIONS

Have students get into pairs or small groups. Have one student read the question aloud to the group. Have the other student(s) share his or her ideas. Move on to the next question, allowing another student to read the question aloud. Encourage students to ask follow-up questions. If there is time, discuss the questions as a class.

## COLLABORATION

### PURPOSE

- To build students' skills in group work
- To give students the opportunity to seek out additional resources and apply newly learned skills
- To extend content presented in the reading

### TEACHING SUGGESTIONS

Assign pairs or groups as indicated by the collaboration activity. Read through the tasks with the class, breaking down each step. Some steps can be completed in class entirely while others may require students to research, survey, or investigate beyond the classroom. Be sure to plan for multi-day tasks, and set clear due dates for students.

## READING 2

Reading 2 is a reading passage on the unit theme from a different angle and often in a different format than Reading 1. It gives students additional exposure to and practice with language, idea development, and reading skills while helping foster synthesizing skills.

### PREPARING TO READ

#### PURPOSE

- To prepare students to understand the content of the reading
- To introduce, review, and/or practice key pre-reading skills
- To introduce and build key academic and thematic vocabulary for the reading

#### TEACHING SUGGESTIONS

As with Reading 1, encourage students to complete the activities in this section in pairs or small groups to promote a high level of engagement. Circulate among students at this time, taking notes of common areas of difficulty. Once students have completed the activities, check for understanding and offer clarification, paying particular attention to any problem areas you noted.

If there is a Skills box in this section, draw students' attention to the particular strategy that they should employ during the reading.

If you wish to extend the vocabulary activity in this section, elicit other word forms of the key vocabulary. Students can add these word forms to their vocabulary notebooks.

### WHILE READING

#### PURPOSE

- To introduce, review, and/or practice key academic reading skills
- To practice reading comprehension, note-taking, and annotation skills
- To see and understand key vocabulary in a natural academic context
- To provide information and stimulate ideas on an academic topic
- To help students become more efficient readers

#### TEACHING SUGGESTIONS

As with Reading 1, have students work in pairs or small groups to complete the activities. Encourage them to annotate the reading so that they are prepared to support their answers from the text. Elicit answers and explanations from the class. Remember to facilitate clarification by referring back to the text yourself, using clear, guided questions to help with understanding.

Alternatively, separate the class into multiple groups, and assign a paragraph or section of the reading to each group. (Students should skim the rest of the passage not assigned to them.) Set a time limit for reading. Then do the exercises as a class, with each group responsible for answering and explaining the items that fall within their paragraph or section of the text.

If there is a Skills box in this section, draw students' attention to the particular strategy that they should employ during the reading.

### READING BETWEEN THE LINES

#### PURPOSE

- To introduce, expand on, and/or practice key reading skills related to students' ability to infer meaning, text type, purpose, audience, etc.
- To introduce, review, and/or practice key critical thinking skills applied to content from the reading passage

#### TEACHING SUGGESTIONS

For Making Inferences activities, have students work in pairs to answer the questions. Instruct pairs to make notes in the margins about the clues from the text they use to answer the questions. Then have pairs meet up with other pairs to compare their clues. Have volunteers share their clues and answers with the class.

For other activity types, such as Recognizing Text Type or Distinguishing Fact and Opinion, have students work in pairs and then share their answers with the class as before. Then promote deeper engagement with guided questions like:

- *How is an essay different from a newspaper article?*
- *What are common features of a [text type]?*
- *What words in the sentence tell you that you are reading an opinion and not a fact?*
- *Can you say more about what [x] means?*

If there is a Skills box in this section, draw students' attention to the particular strategy that they should employ while making inferences.

## CRITICAL THINKING

### PURPOSE

- To think critically about the content of the reading
- To give students the opportunity to move up Bloom's Taxonomy while synthesizing content from Reading 1 and Reading 2
- To extend content presented in the reading

### TEACHING SUGGESTIONS

Before students discuss the questions in this section the first time, introduce the key skill of synthesis. Start by defining synthesis (combining and analyzing ideas from multiple sources). Stress its importance in higher education: in college or graduate school, students will be asked to synthesize ideas from a wide range of sources, to think critically about them, to make connections among them, and to add their own ideas.

Note: you may need to review this information periodically with your class.

Have students get into pairs or small groups. Have one student read the question aloud to the group. Have the other student(s) share his or her ideas. Move on to the next question, allowing another student to read the question aloud. Encourage students to ask follow-up questions. If there is time, discuss the questions as a class.

## COLLABORATION

### PURPOSE

- To build students' skills in group work
- To give students the opportunity to seek out additional resources and apply newly learned skills
- To extend content presented in the readings

### TEACHING SUGGESTIONS

Assign pairs or groups as indicated by the collaboration activity. Read through the tasks with the class, breaking down each step. Some steps can be completed in class entirely while others may require students to research, survey, or investigate beyond the classroom. Be sure to plan for multi-day tasks, and set clear due dates for students.

## LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT

Each unit includes the introduction and practice of academic language relevant to the unit theme and readings. The focus of this section is on vocabulary and/or grammar.

### PURPOSE

- To recycle and expand on vocabulary that appears in Reading 1 or Reading 2
- To focus and expand on grammar that appears in Reading 1 or Reading 2
- To expose students to additional corpus-informed, research-based language appropriate for the unit theme and level

### TEACHING SUGGESTIONS

For grammar points, review the Language Box as a class and facilitate answers to any unclear sections. Alternatively, have students review it in pairs and allow time for questions. Then have students work in pairs to complete the accompanying activities. Review students' answers, allowing time for any clarification. For vocabulary points, have students complete the exercises in pairs. Then, review answers and allow time for any clarification. To extend this activity, have students create sentences using each term and/or make a list of synonyms, antonyms, or related words and phrases for each term. Students should also add relevant language to their vocabulary notebooks.

For homework, have students annotate the readings in the unit, underlining or highlighting any language covered in this section.

## WATCH AND LISTEN

Each unit includes a short authentic video from a respected news source that is related to the unit theme, along with exercises for students to do before, while, and after watching. The video can be played in the classroom or watched outside of class by students via the Cambridge LMS.

Note: A glossary defines above-level or specialized words that appear in the video and are essential for students to understand the main ideas so that teachers do not have to spend time pre-teaching or explaining this vocabulary while viewing.

### **PURPOSE**

- To create a varied and dynamic learning experience
- To generate further interest in and discussion of the unit theme
- To develop and practice key skills in prediction, comprehension, and discussion
- To personalize and give opinions on a theme
- To present additional opportunities for critical thinking and collaborative tasks

### **TEACHING SUGGESTIONS**

#### **PREPARING TO WATCH**

Have students work in pairs to complete the Activating Your Knowledge exercise. Then have volunteers share their answers. Alternatively, students can complete this section on their own, and then compare answers with their partners.

For a livelier class discussion, look at the visuals from the Predicting Content Using Visuals exercise as a class and answer the questions together.

#### **WHILE WATCHING**

Watch the video two to three times in class. In the first viewing, ask students to listen for main ideas. During the second viewing, draw students' attention to key details. After each viewing, facilitate a discussion of students' answers, and clarify any confusion. If time allows, consider a third viewing with the closed captioning turned on. This feature is controlled by teachers and can aid in comprehension. Remind students that they can watch the video again at home or during a computer lab session.

#### **CRITICAL THINKING**

##### **PURPOSE**

- To think critically about the content of the video
- To give students the opportunity to move up Bloom's Taxonomy while synthesizing content from the unit readings and video
- To extend content presented in the video

##### **TEACHING SUGGESTIONS**

Have students get into pairs or small groups. Have one student read the question aloud to the group. Have the other student(s) share his or her ideas. Move on to the next question, allowing another partner to read the question aloud. Encourage students to ask follow-up questions. If there is time, discuss the questions as a class.

#### **COLLABORATION**

##### **PURPOSE**

- To build students' skills in group work
- To give students the opportunity to seek out additional resources and apply newly learned skills
- To extend content presented in the unit
- To serve as a culminating task for the unit theme

##### **TEACHING SUGGESTIONS**

Assign pairs or groups as indicated by the collaboration activity. Read through the tasks with the class, breaking down each step. Some steps can be completed in class entirely while others may require students to research, survey, or investigate beyond the classroom. Be sure to plan for multi-day tasks, and set clear due dates for students.

## LESSON PLANNERS

Lesson planners provide guidance to teachers, helping them balance text content with supporting resources and activities in Cambridge's Learning Management System (CLMS) over the course of a term or semester. The following steps apply to each lesson planner, regardless of the program.

At the beginning of the term/semester:

- set up the appropriate Prism Reading course;
- send the course ID to your students and/or copy it onto your course syllabus.

Before each new unit:

- open the correct unit in the CLMS;
- assign the tasks/activities to your students.

Before the final class in a unit:

- review the unit assessment and modify as needed.

**Intensive:** Programs where Reading is 8 hours a week or more, for 8 weeks. You can spend 8 hours on each unit.

Hour	In class	Outside of class
1	Unit Opener Reading 1: Preparing to Read	Reading 1: text
2	Reading 1: review text Reading 1: While Reading Reading 1: Reading Between the Lines	Have students keep a vocabulary notebook— use the CLMS Class Tools: BLOG Review Critical Thinking questions
3	Reading 1: Critical Thinking Reading 1: Collaboration	Reading 1: Collaboration steps that require out-of-class work
4	Reading 2: Preparing to Read Reading 2: text	Add to vocabulary notebook Reading 2: While Reading
5	Reading 2: review While Reading Reading 2: Reading Between the Lines Reading 2: Critical Thinking	CLMS: Reading and Vocabulary
6	Reading 2: Collaboration Language Development	Reading 2: Collaboration steps that require out-of-class work Add to vocabulary notebook CLMS: Language Development
7	Reading 2: Collaboration presentations, if applicable Watch & Listen (through Critical Thinking)	Watch & Listen: Collaboration steps that require out-of-class work
8	Watch & Listen: Collaboration Unit Assessment	



**Semi-Intensive:** Programs where Reading is 6 hours a week or more, for 10 weeks. You can spend up to 7 hours on each unit.

Hour	In class	Outside of class
1	Unit Opener Reading 1: Preparing to Read	Reading 1: text
2	Reading 1: review text Reading 1: While Reading Reading 1: Reading Between the Lines Reading 1: Critical Thinking	Have students keep a vocabulary notebook—use the CLMS Class Tools: BLOG
3	Reading 1: Collaboration Reading 2: Preparing to Read	Reading 1: Collaboration steps that require out-of-class work Reading 2: text
4	Reading 1: Collaboration presentations, if applicable Reading 2: review text Reading 2: While Reading Reading 2: Reading Between the Lines	Add to vocabulary notebook Reading 2: Critical Thinking CLMS: Reading and Vocabulary
5	Reading 2: review Critical Thinking Reading 2: Collaboration Language Development	Reading 2: Collaboration steps that require out-of-class work Add to vocabulary notebook CLMS: Language Development
6	Reading 2: Collaboration presentations, if applicable Watch & Listen	Watch & Listen: Collaboration steps that require out-of-class work
7	Watch & Listen: Collaboration presentations, if applicable Unit Assessment	

**Less Intensive:** Programs where Reading is 3 hours a week for 15 weeks. You can spend 6 hours on each unit.

Hour	In class	Outside of class
1	Unit Opener; Reading 1: Preparing to Read Reading 1: text	Reading 1: While Reading Reading 1: Reading Between the Lines Have students keep a vocabulary notebook—use the CLMS Class Tools: BLOG
2	Reading 1: review While Reading Reading 1: review Reading Between the Lines Reading 1: Critical Thinking Reading 1: Collaboration	Reading 1: Collaboration steps that require out-of-class work
3	Reading 2: Preparing to Read Reading 2: text Reading 2: While Reading	Add to vocabulary notebook Reading 2: Reading Between the Lines CLMS: Vocabulary
4	Reading 2: review Reading Between the Lines Reading 2: Critical Thinking Reading 2: Collaboration	Reading 2: Collaboration steps that require out-of-class work CLMS: Reading
5	Language Development Watch & Listen	Add to vocabulary notebook CLMS: Language Development Watch & Listen: Collaboration steps that require out-of-class work
6	Watch & Listen: Collaboration presentations, if applicable Unit Assessment	

**INCREASE LEARNER ENGAGEMENT: EXTEND THE CLASSROOM WALLS**

How can you increase student engagement? Extend your classroom walls. Creating opportunities for students to engage with course content outside of the classroom not only increases student engagement, but leads to better learning. To engage learners more deeply and to extend your classroom walls, consider flipping your classroom. The FLIPped approach is built on the premise that students can receive instruction outside of the classroom. This instruction often takes place in a digital environment, like Cambridge’s Learning Management system (CLMS). Teachers assign students tasks and activities outside of the classroom which tend to be lower on Bloom’s Taxonomy. Reading a text and identifying key ideas, or watching an instructional video on a new structure or strategy are examples. Then, in class, students work on higher-order skills, and apply, analyze, evaluate, or create with the new knowledge. Below is a lesson planner you can use as a guide to increase learner engagement by extending classroom walls.

Hour	Before class	In class	Outside of class
	At the beginning of term: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• set up <i>Prism Reading</i> Cambridge Learning Management System (CLMS) course</li> <li>• send course ID to students or copy onto syllabus</li> </ul> Before each new unit: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• open unit and assign tasks in the CLMS</li> </ul>		
1		Unit Opener Reading 1: Preparing to Read	Reading 1: text Reading 1: While Reading Reading 1: Reading Between the Lines
2	Students complete Reading 1: text, While Reading, Reading Between the Lines	Reading 1: Critical Thinking Reading 1: Collaboration Reading 2: Preparing to Read	Reading 1: Collaboration steps that require out-of-class work Reading 2: text Reading 2: While Reading Reading 2: Reading Between the Lines CLMS: Vocabulary
3	Students complete Reading 2: text, While Reading, Reading Between the Lines	Reading 1: Collaboration presentations, if applicable Reading 2: Critical Thinking Reading 2: Collaboration	Reading 2: Collaboration steps that require out-of-class work Language Development CLMS: Reading
4	Students complete Language Development	Reading 2: Collaboration presentations, if applicable Language Development: review activities, hands-on activity with language	CLMS: Language Development CLMS: video
5	Students watch video	Watch & Listen	Watch & Listen: Collaboration steps that require out-of-class work
6	Students can collaborate with peers via Discussion Board Review Unit Assessment and modify as needed	Watch & Listen: Collaboration presentations, if applicable Unit Assessment	