

How to use ReadWorks to promote reading for pleasure and increase student exposure to English

CEFR level: Any level

Trinity Qualification(s) type: GESE and ISE

Skills Focus: Reading

Resources:

- Register on ReadWorks (<https://www.readworks.org/teacher-signup>)

Description:

Readworks is a website that can help reduce the reading comprehension crisis and help reduce the student achievement gap.

ReadWorks Top 5 reading activities:

1. Article-A-Day

The Article-A-Day series by ReadWorks is a “high-impact, 10-15 minute daily routine where students read one high-quality nonfiction article as part of a weekly, related article set. Article-A-Day™ is the perfect way to build students’ background knowledge, vocabulary, and reading stamina.” The Book of Knowledge is where students will write down things they have learned and want to remember from an article.

2. StepRead Series

The StepRead Series is a great way for us to be able to engage hesitant readers because it gives us a ready-made scaffolded version of the reading. Students who read the StepRead version of the article use the same question set that is provided for the original article, but they have a simplified version of the text.

3. Personalised reading goals

We all know how important personalisation is in helping students reach their full potential and ReadWorks can also help.

4. Reading groups

Obviously, we can create reading groups even without a website like ReadWorks, but ReadWorks makes it easier.

5. Paired Texts

Paired Texts are made up of two articles that are paired based on a common topic, theme, or literary element. So for anyone who prepares for Trinity’s ISE exams where there are the multi-text readings in Tasks 2 and 3, this is a fantastic way of preparing students for that part of the exam as all the paired texts come with a custom question set that helps students to draw important connections between the two texts. Each question set is typically made up of six questions that build on one another to facilitate the student's comprehension of the two texts.