

Start at the End & Summarize

## Quick Tip of the Week

## Did you know ...

Some readers would never dream of reading the last chapter of a story before they read the rest of a book, but for some readers this strategy really helps them understand where a writer may be trying to take them in a story. Some readers also like to finish a book or story and spend hours, days, or even weeks digesting what they read before they try to summarize what they've read, but for others an immediate summary really helps them to not only comprehend what they have read,



but to remember details within a story as well. Whichever you prefer, I encourage you to practice these strategies. If you ever have any questions about these strategies, ask your Instructor or come see us at the Advocacy Center, JH 308 for help.

<u>Strategy # 3:</u> Start with the Conclusion- Read the conclusion of the text first. You can decide how much of the conclusion you want to read, but select a long enough passage so you can gain some idea of what is happening. If you choose a ten-page essay, you might read the last 3-4 paragraphs; if a two-page poem, perhaps the last 20-25 lines. After you've read the conclusion, go to the beginning and read the piece all the way through. While reading, keep in mind what you know about the conclusion and consider how the pieces of text you are reading might somehow prepare the reader for that ending.

<u>Strategy # 23:</u> End of Text Summary- When you are finished reading the story, poem, or essay, write a paragraph in the margin or at the end of the composition, summarizing what strikes you as most interesting or appealing or puzzling about this composition.

http://www.public.coe.edu/~wcenter/handouts\_reading.php