1. **Set a purpose:** Why am I reading this?

2. **Use past knowledge:** What do I already know about this topic?

3. **Increase your anticipation:** What new ideas can I learn?

4. **IF I’M STILL NOT INTERESTED, WHAT CAN I DO?**
   - Instead of reading it … *Skim* it!
   - Instead of reading it all … read at least the beginning and end.
   - Think of good reasons why you want to know this information (to succeed in a course; to increase your personal awareness; to impress your friends).

**Key tips to help you remember what you read:**

- Define unfamiliar vocabulary **before** you read.
- Read once quickly; then read for details and emphasis.
- Read in selective **small chunks**.
- Question constantly.
- Connect to past knowledge, class notes, other course readings, other things you’ve read.
- Review often.
- Read to find the **main points** and to determine how the supporting **details** relate to the main idea.

*(Adapted from a handout at the Learning Resources Center at Hudson Valley Community College, Troy, NY)*