READING COMPREHENSION: SELF-TESTING AFTER READING A CHAPTER

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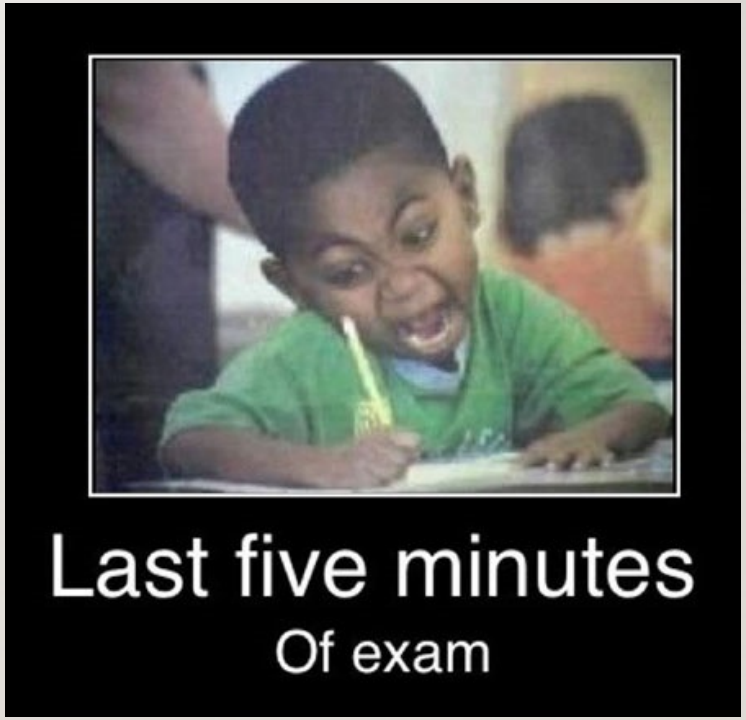
WHY SELF-TEST

- Self-testing helps with
  - Understanding of important material
  - Ensuring comprehension
  - Encouraging focus
  - Thinking critically
  - Answering questions that may be on the test

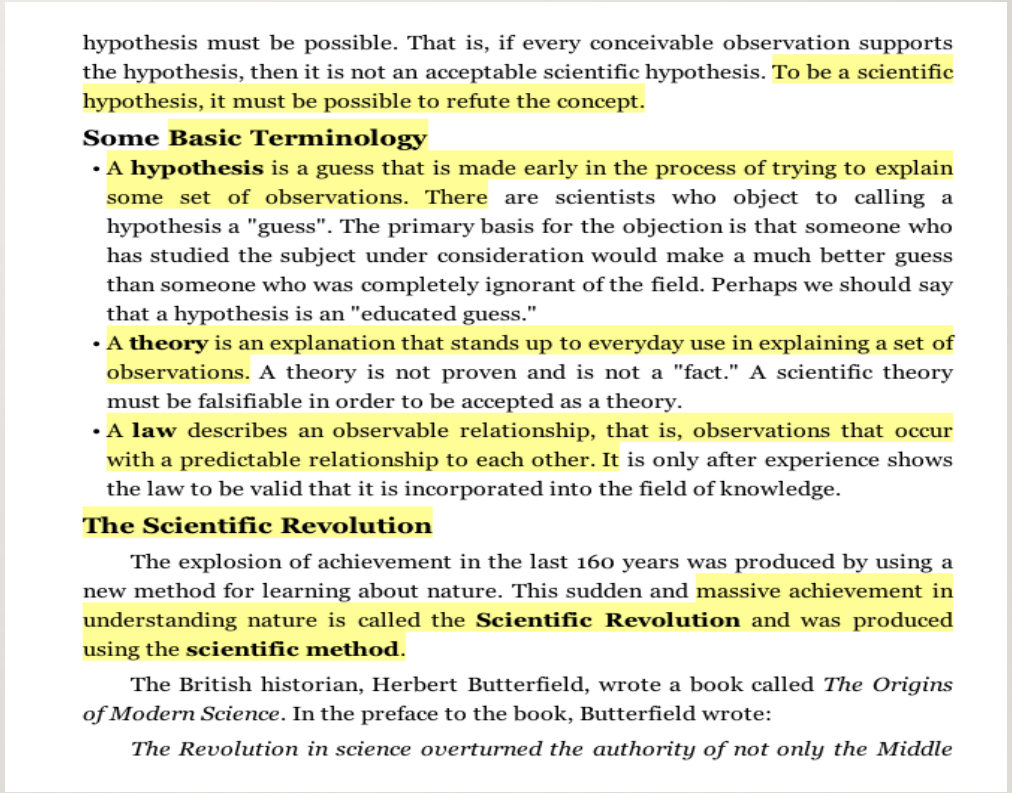


OVERVIEW

- Identify key terms
- Summarize section
- Utilize tools in the book (if available)
- Summary and final tips

IDENTIFY KEY TERMS

- Pay close attention to words that are:
  - *Italicized*
  - **Bold**
  - Defined on the slide
- Terms like these are often used in tests and quizzes



hypothesis must be possible. That is, if every conceivable observation supports the hypothesis, then it is not an acceptable scientific hypothesis. To be a scientific hypothesis, it must be possible to refute the concept.

Some Basic Terminology

- A **hypothesis** is a guess that is made early in the process of trying to explain some set of observations. There are scientists who object to calling a hypothesis a "guess". The primary basis for the objection is that someone who has studied the subject under consideration would make a much better guess than someone who was completely ignorant of the field. Perhaps we should say that a hypothesis is an "educated guess."
- A **theory** is an explanation that stands up to everyday use in explaining a set of observations. A theory is not proven and is not a "fact." A scientific theory must be falsifiable in order to be accepted as a theory.
- A **law** describes an observable relationship, that is, observations that occur with a predictable relationship to each other. It is only after experience shows the law to be valid that it is incorporated into the field of knowledge.

The Scientific Revolution

The explosion of achievement in the last 160 years was produced by using a new method for learning about nature. This sudden and massive achievement in understanding nature is called the **Scientific Revolution** and was produced using the **scientific method**.

The British historian, Herbert Butterfield, wrote a book called *The Origins of Modern Science*. In the preface to the book, Butterfield wrote:

The Revolution in science overturned the authority of not only the Middle

SECTION SUMMARY

- To increase focus and comprehension, self-test after each section of the chapter.
  - Summarize in *your own words* what it was about. Try explaining to a friend or classmate.
- Summarizing involves determining important information and to putting it in your own words. It helps students:
  - Identify or generate main ideas
  - Connect the main or central ideas
  - Eliminate unnecessary information
  - Remember what they read

TOOLS IN THE BOOK

- Use the tools within a book to self-test. Often times, the end of the chapter provides:
  - **Chapter summary**: read the chapter summary to see if you understand. If you don't, go back and read about the areas it highlights.
  - **Key terms**: be able to define each key term.
  - **End of chapter questions**: be able to answer the questions at the end of each chapter. They help identify the most important information.

SUMMARY AND TIPS

- Check for understanding after each section.
- Utilize tools for self-test in the book
- If you don't understand something, ask a classmate or the teacher in office hours.
- Underline, highlight, or write down main points (this makes studying for exams easier)
- Study somewhere that you can focus without distractions.

REFERENCES

- Adler, C.R. (Ed). 2001. *Put Reading First: The Research Building Blocks for Teaching Children to Read*, pp.49-54. National Institute for Literacy. Retrieved Nov. 1, 20007, from https://lincs.ed.gov/publications/html/prfteachers/reading_first1.html.