

It's our first lecture about the English Course "NAJAM 132", which we are going to study in this semester. It's all about Reading Skills. The book which we are going to study is "More Reading Power 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition by Beatrice S. Mikulecky & Linda Jeffries". This course will cover different reading skills through the following four parts;

### **1. Reading for Pleasure;**

Reading for pleasure as it is clear from its name is not for any particular purpose, it is just for enjoyment. It is the easiest way to become a better reader in English. Through this kind of reading,

- You can learn new words and these new words will surely improve your vocabulary.
- You can increase your reading speed.
- You can improve your comprehension.
- You can increase your knowledge about the cultures of different English Speakers.

### **2. Comprehension skills;**

Successful reading involves various skills. In this part of the course you will learn about the different comprehension skills. The purpose of this part is to teach you;

- How to Preview texts?
- How to scan texts?
- How to skim text?
- How to use vocabulary knowledge for effective reading?
- How to make inferences?

- How to find topics?
- How to discover topics of different paragraphs?
- How to understand the main ideas of the text?
- How to identify the different patterns of organization?
- How to summarize texts?

### **3. Thinking Skills;**

This part will enhance your thinking skills. We all know that reading isn't just understanding the words of the texts or the grammar of the texts. And it is also not just translating texts. It's a common belief that If we want to learn a new language, we will have to think in that language. The same rule applies to the English language. If you want to learn English, you will have to start thinking in English. This part of our course will provide you a lot of opportunities to increase your thinking skills through various exercises.

### **4. Reading Faster;**

This last part of our course is about Reading faster. There are a lot of exercises to teach you;

1. How to improve your comprehension?
2. How to save time on reading assignments?
3. How can make your reading enjoyable?

This was the introduction of the course. Let's start now the first part of the book Reading for Pleasure. There is only on story in this part.

## Good Morning

When I was a boy, I walked through two miles of woods to get to our schoolhouse, and I would take my father's twenty-two rifle with me and hide it in a hollow tree before I got to the schoolhouse, and get it as I came home in the evening.

One evening, coming from school, I ran into a community uprising at Mr. Epperly's house. Mr. Epperly's cow had gone mad and was bawling lonesome bawls and twisting the young apple trees out of the ground with her horns, and the whole community was demanding that Mr. Epperly's dog, Old Ranger, be shot, as Old Ranger had fought and killed the mad dog that bit the cow.

Mr. Epperly wanted to know it wouldn't be safe to put Old ranger in the stable or some place and keep him penned up until the danger period was over, but the neighbors said no; that Mr. Epperly's children might slip and feed him through the cracks and get bit

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The remaining part of the story is your **home work**. Read the remaining part of the story on the page # 5 of the book).

In our next lecture, we will discuss the story in general. Try to understand the general idea of the story especially events and the major characters. Prepare yourself to answer some simple questions about the story.