

Unit 5

Reading for details

Once the writer has a topic to talk about and has decided the main idea or main topic. He may further develop his paragraph by providing supporting details with sentences that explain, clarify, or justify the main thought. Reading for specific details involves understanding what information, or what kind of information, you're looking for, locating it and then reading the relevant part carefully to get a full and detailed understanding.

In real life, we often only read parts of texts (the parts that provide the information we're interested in). For example, in reading tasks in English exams, time pressure forces candidates to find information quickly so doing this helps in both real-life and exam situations after identifying the information you need, it's helpful to determine which part of the text it is in. Headings can help with this, as it can read for gist. The main reading skill employed is **scanning**.

The process of scanning a text is like looking for a particular face in a crowded place. You will run your eyes over (scan) the place looking for the person. You will not spend too much time looking at every face but only glance at each one until your eyes rest on the particular face you are looking for.

When you scan a text you are actually looking for specific information or details without reading the whole text. Scanning for information is a search technique. It is more practical to scan for information than to read the whole text when looking for details. When scanning, you try to locate the answers or facts quickly by reading selectively. The scanning process should not take you more than a few minutes.

Details can be found by scanning:

- titles of articles, headings, subheadings
- key words and phrases
- words in italics and in bold

- visual aids
- dates
- names of people
- definitions
- statistics

How to scan a text for information

1. Determine what specific information you are looking for.
2. Look at headings, subheadings, tables, figures or any other visuals in the text.
3. Run your eyes quickly over the text, paying particular attention to key words and phrases.
4. Do not read every word.

In this unit, you will practice scanning many different kinds of materials. You should do the work on each exercise as quickly as possible.

Exercise 1:

Read the following text quickly. Then decide whether the statements are true or false. Write T or F in the box provided.

Thailand northern region comprises 17 provinces; they are Chiang Mai, Chiang Rai, Kampong Phet, Lampang, Lamphun, Mae Hong Son, Nakhon Sawan, Nan, Phayao, Phetchabun, Phichit, Phitsanulok, Phrae, Sukhothai, Tak, Uthai Thani and Uttaradit. It occupies an approximate area of 170,000 square kilometres or the equivalent of 106 millions rai, bordering on the territories of Laos and Myanmar. There are several reasons why foreign tourists come to visit the north.

The north is the home of Thailand's earliest civilization and is famous for its beautiful women, and hospitable and courteous people, as well as many sites of archaeological and cultural interest such as the Ancient City of Sukhothai, the first capital of Thailand some 700 years ago; Buddha's Relics at Wat Doi Suthep of Chiang Mai, a highly revered place for northerners; Phra Buddha Chinarat, said to be the most beautiful Buddha image in Thailand, at Wat Phra Si Ratana-Mahathat in Phitsanulok. The largest dam in Thailand, and the world's seventh largest, the Bhumibol Dam is in Tak.

In addition, the northern region is the home to Thailand's many colourful hill tribal people such as the Lahu of Tak and the Yao, Akha, Karen, Hmong, and Lisu tribes of the Chiang Mai and Chiang Rai mountainous regions.

The north is also noted for its rich cultural traditions, and many tourists from the surrounding provinces flock to Chiang Mai for the annual Songkran Festival, and to Sukhothai for Loi Krathong.

The north is accessible by the good network of highways in the region itself and interregional highways. Trains run from Bangkok to Chiang Mai and there are flights operated by the Thai Airways International Limited from Bangkok to Phitsanulok, Phrae, Nan, Lampang, Chiang Mai, Chiang Rai, Tak, Mae Sot and Mae Hong Son.

- 1. There are seventeen provinces in the north of Thailand.
- 2. Laos and Myanmar are our northern neighboring countries.
- 3. Foreign tourists dislike visiting the northern region of Thailand.
- 4. The Emerald Buddha at Wat Phra Si Ratana-Mahathat in Phitsanulok is the most beautiful Buddha image in Thailand.
- 5. The north is famous for hospitable and courteous people and many sites of archaeological and cultural interest.
- 6. You can travel to Chiang Mai by rail and road only.
- 7. A lot of hill tribal people live in the north.
- 8. There are only few tourist attractions in the north.

Exercise 2:

Read the following text and answer the following questions.

Getting into London from the airport**TAXI**

You will have no difficulty finding one of the famous black taxis to take you to central London. The meter fare to Oxford Street will be in the region of £30 depending on traffic. The taxis carry up to 5 passengers and the driver will not charge more than what is shown on the meter. You may tip the driver (most Londoners do) but you don't have to.

UNDERGROUND

In London the underground is called 'The Tube' and it is a cheap and efficient way to travel. Heathrow has two underground stations, clearly signposted from the terminals, on the Piccadilly Line, which runs directly into the heart of the city. Heathrow is on a loop in the line so it is impossible to get on a train going in the wrong direction. It will take about 50 minutes to get to central London. Special Travel cards are also available offering unlimited travel on public transport. You can purchase your tickets at the entrance to the station.

BY BUS

'Airbuses' run from the central bus station and are a great way to see London from the comfort of a coach as you are driven into the city. The cost of a single journey is £5. If you're at Terminal 4, take a free transfer bus to the station. If you are heading into central London at night you can catch the N97 bus from the central bus station which costs £2.00.

1. What does the cost of a taxi from the airport to London depend on?

2. How do you know how much to pay for a taxi?

3. Why is it impossible to get on a tube train at Heathrow going in the wrong direction?

4. What kind of ticket allows you to travel on a bus or an underground train?

5. What are two advantages of travelling by coach to London?

Exercise 3:

Read the following labels. Decide whether the statements about them are TRUE (T) or FALSE (F).

ROXO BLEACH

CAUTION: Roxo bleach may be harmful if swallowed or may cause severe eye irritation if splashed in eyes. If swallowed, give milk. If splashed in eyes, flood with water. Call physician. Skin irritant; if contact with skin, wash off with water. Do not use bleach with ammonia or products containing acids, such as toilet-bowl cleaners, rust removers, or vinegar. To do so will release hazardous gases. Prolonged contact with metal may cause pitting or discoloration. Do not use this bottle to store any liquid other than bleach.

- 1. This product is not harmful to the skin.
- 2. Used with ammonia, this product becomes harmless.
- 3. This product can cause severe eye irritation.
- 4. This product is harmful if swallowed.
- 5. The bottle may be safely used for storing other liquids.

Exercise 4:

Read the newspaper article to find the correct answer. Work quickly. After finishing, compare your answer with your partner.

Two killed in 20-vehicle crash caused by smoke

TWO people died and three others were injured in a crash involving more than 20 vehicles yesterday on the eastbound motorway in Chon Buri as thick smoke from roadside grass-burning reduced visibility to near zero, police spokesmen said.

The pile-up, which occurred at kilometre 63 of the Bangkok-Chonburi Motorway in Muang District, involved passenger cars and ten-wheel trucks, police said. Three of the cars burst into flames.

The dead were identified as Pongpaew Singtothourong, 65, of Ban Bung and Ranee Panjasawat, 70, of Bangkok, police added.

Panida Takulkarn, 34, Rawee Panjasawat, 39, and Thada Arunkitra, 65, all residents of Bangkok, were injured in the accidents, police said.

Smoke from grass burning in nearby fields was blamed for the motorway pile-up because drivers' ability to see and react to what was happening on the road ahead had been seriously affected.

Bangkok Post, October 15, 2006: 3

1. What is the main subject of this news story?
 - a. A road accident
 - b. A plane crash
 - c. A murder on a motorway
 - d. A car racing
2. How many people died? _____
3. How many people were injured? _____
4. Where did the incident take place? _____
5. How did the incident happen? _____
6. Where did the injured people come from? _____

Exercise 5:

This table of contents is divided into units. It also has sections. Use it to answer the following questions.

Table of Contents	
To the student	vii
UNIT ONE: Courage Was Their Companion	1
John F. Kennedy: <i>Ngval Hero</i>	3
Alan B. Shepard: <i>Astronaut</i>	16
Ralph J. Bunche: <i>Diplomat</i>	28
Tom Dooley: <i>Medical Missionary</i>	40
Anne Sullivan Macy: <i>Teacher</i>	52
Another Look	63
UNIT TWO: "I Have a Dream"	65
Martin Luther King, Jr.: <i>Civil Rights Leader</i>	66
Adlai Stevenson: <i>Statesman</i>	76
Mary McLeod Bethune: <i>Educator</i>	84
John Steinbeck: <i>Writer</i>	95
Carl B. Stokes and Richard G. Hatcher:	
<i>American Mayors</i>	104
Another Look	115
UNIT THREE: Their Eyes Were on the Stars	117
Leonard Bernstein: <i>Musical Genius</i>	118
Countee Cullen: <i>Poet</i>	128
Edwin Way Teale: <i>Naturalist</i>	136
Mahalia Jackson: <i>Gospel Singer</i>	146
Isaac Asimov: <i>Science Fiction Writer</i>	154
Another Look	163
UNIT FOUR: Their Achievements May Surprise You	165
Benjamin Banneker: <i>Surveyor</i>	166
Thomas Hoving: <i>Museum Director</i>	176

Daniel Hale Williams: <i>Surgeon</i>	185
Betty Furness: <i>Consumer Adviser</i>	195
Dr. Seuss: <i>Comic Artist</i>	204
Another Look	213

1. How many units are there on this page? _____
2. What is the title of Unit One? _____
Unit Two? _____
3. How many pages in this book are about Ralph J. Bunche? _____
Anne Sullivan Macy? _____
4. To which page would you turn to read about Martin Luther King, Jr.? _____
Leonard Bernstein? _____
5. If you wanted to read about courageous people, which unit would you read?

6. What is the name of *each* unit? _____

Exercise 6:

Read the classified ads below. They are advertisements for job vacancies.

Answer the questions about these ads.

We are a Thai speciality Restaurant in Switzerland and are looking for an Experienced waitress

Condition: female between 22 and 28 years old
English speaking fluently
at least 3 years experience in a 1st class hotel as waitress

We offer: good salary as well as food and accommodation, friendly working atmosphere

Please send your documents (photo, curriculum vitae) in handwritten, working certificates, in Thai and English to:

**Ban Thai GmbH,
St. Alban-Rheinweg 188
4052 Basel/Switzerland**

A Senior Secretary

We are looking for a secretary/administrator who should possess the following qualifications.

- Fluency in written and spoken English
- Good experience in Microsoft Office
- Self-Organized. Fully committed to the job
- Female with minimum 3 years experience.

Age 25-30

Please send in your resume to:
**World Media Co., Ltd.
Suite 40, 9th Flr., RS Tower,
121 Rachadaphisek Rd., Dindaeng, Bkk. 10320
E-mail: nararidh@mozart.inet.co.th**

MANAGER FOR INDIAN RESTAURANT

Indian Restaurant is looking for a **"Restaurant Manager"** to manage and market the restaurant independently. Minimum experience 10 yrs.

**Fax resume to: 224 0805, 226 3029
or e-mail: ilyaslap@ksc.th.com**

**Urgently Required
Experienced
English Teacher**
Full Time & Part Time
Please contact
Tel: 7128791

Marketing Consultants

We are looking for candidates who have:

- ☛ Thai Nationality
- ☛ University Degree
- ☛ Multi Level Sales Skills

Resume and covering letter to:
**Eurointernet (Thailand) Co., Ltd.
8th floor, Srivikorn Building, 18/8 Sukhumvit
21, Klongtoey, Bangkok 10110.**

URGENTLY REQUIRED

- 1. Senior Translator: English > Thai**
☛ In-depth knowledge of automotive technology or related engineering fields
- 2. Systems Engineer/Programmer**
☛ Windows programming (C, C++, Javascript), HTML, & LAN systems maintenance

**STAR Translation & Software (Thailand) Co., Ltd.
Send resume to: Fax: 6640566
email: starthal@samart.co.th**

Restaurant in Silom requires
Bartender, Waiter, Chef De Partie

- Must speak English and have experience
- Friendly and out-going personality

Tel. 233-1767 (Between 3 PM. - 6 PM.)

Bangkok Post, November 2005 : 2-3

1. The jobs that require previous experience are _____
2. You may apply for the waitress' job by _____
_____ to Ban Thai GmbH, St. Alban-Rheinweg 188, 4052 Basel/Switzerland.
3. You would _____ to inquire information about the English teacher's job.
4. To apply for the marketing consultants' job you must send _____
_____ to the company.
5. _____ For the systems engineer's job you must have knowledge of _____
6. You need _____ experience to apply for the restaurant manager's job.

7. The way you could contact if you are interested in a secretary's job is _____
_____.
5. The waitress' job offers _____.
6. A woman who would like to apply for the senior secretary's job must not be
Over _____ years of age.
7. If you would like to apply for the bartender's job, you must speak _____
_____ and _____.

Activity:

You are planning a vacation. Search a package tour and travel advertisement in the website or brochure. Scan the advertisement and find out the following information.

1. Duration
2. Accommodation
3. Transportation
4. Facilities
5. Price
6. Tour agent/contacted company