

How to Survey a Textbook

1. What is the title?
2. What do you already know about the subject as stated in the title?
3. Read the Table of Contents and list the major divisions or parts of the book.
4. Is the book organized chronologically, topically, or does it follow some other organizational plan?
5. Make three predictions about what you can expect to learn in the rest of the book.
 - a.
 - b.
 - c.
6. Ask one question you would like answered.
7. Read the Introduction and Preface. Who is the author; what do you know about him/her? Mention qualifications and background, biases, unusual approach, or any other information about the author that you find in the Introduction or Preface.
8. List three items of useful information in the Preface or Introduction that will help you read the book.
9. Look at the first chapter of the book. What is its title?
10. Look at the last chapter of the book. What is its title?

