

## High School – IB & AP Reading Preparation

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May 2017

Get ready! Summer is here!

If your student will be taking AP or IB English or social studies courses during their high school career and if they intend to go to college, investing some time this summer in improving reading speed and comprehension may be worth their time.

According to Dr. Marisa Atria Kruger, O.D., F.C.O.V.D., CHom the average reading speeds for the following student groups are:

- Third-grade students = 150 words per minute (wpm)
- Eighth grade students = 250
- Average college student = 400

A quick on-line test to gage your students reading speed and comprehension can be found at <http://projects.wsj.com/speedread/>

As with all educational endeavors choose the program that best meets your child's learning style. There are online courses available 24/7 for teens that are self-starters and want to learn at odd hours, classroom courses, often at local universities, for those requiring more structure or supervised course work with local specialists. You will find a number of classes geared toward corporate adults, so be sure to choose something designed with teens in mind to keep them engaged.

For those dealing with visual issues that impact reading speed, remember that learning is not only visual, audio books may be the answer for addressing the AP reading load. Public libraries have excellent selections of audio literature. An organization called Learning Ally, [www.learningally.org](http://www.learningally.org), specializes in supporting students with visual impairments and dyslexia and has many textbooks translated for audio use (Membership required.). During the year students can find additional support through Kahn Academy and Crash Course on YouTube.