

Contents

To the reader 2

Introduction

Reading and reading comprehension 3

What is reading comprehension? 3

Some assumptions 6

Reading comprehension in the classroom 10

Reading comprehension exercise-types 12

The exercises

I Reading techniques 28

Sensitizing 28

Improving reading speed 54

From skimming to scanning 56

II How the aim is conveyed 90

Aim and function of the text 90

Organization of the text: different thematic patterns 93

Thematization 127

III Understanding meaning 130

Non-linguistic response to the text 130

Linguistic response to the text 186

IV Assessing the text 239

Fact versus opinion 239

Writer's intention 241

Bibliography 251

Acknowledgements 252