



# NUMURKAH SECONDARY COLLEGE

## Whole College Literacy Program

Numurkah Secondary College is committed to improving student literacy.

The College has adopted a whole school approach to improvement through a whole college reading program and a consistent approach to writing in all Key Learning Areas.

All students in Years 7—11, participate in our reading program everyday. Through this program students are encouraged to read text of their own choice in order to make relevant and more accessible for all. The program runs for eighteen minutes everyday.

**Good readers have developed good habits when they read. We call these habits strategies. Strategies help readers understand, connect to, and determine the importance of what they are reading. They also visualize, ask questions about, and read between the lines of what they read.**

### The 7 Reading Strategies

Make Connections

Ask Questions

Determine Importance

Infer and Predict

Visualise

Synthesize

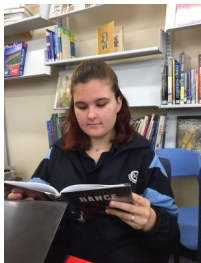
Use Fix Up Strategies

Want to read better?  
**READ MORE!**

Student A	Student B	Student C
<b>20 MINUTES PER NIGHT</b> <b>3,600 MINUTES PER YEAR</b> <b>EXPOSED TO</b> <b>1,800,000,000 WORDS</b>	<b>5 MINUTES PER NIGHT</b> <b>400 MINUTES PER YEAR</b> <b>EXPOSED TO</b> <b>282,000 WORDS</b>	<b>1 MINUTE PER NIGHT</b> <b>180 MINUTES PER YEAR</b> <b>EXPOSED TO</b> <b>8,000 WORDS</b>
<b>Which student would you expect to...</b>		
<input type="radio"/> READ better?		
<input type="radio"/> have a greater content <b>KNOWLEDGE</b> ?		
<input type="radio"/> WRITE better?		
<input type="radio"/> have a better <b>VOCABULARY</b> ?		
<input type="radio"/> have a better <b>SELF-CONFIDENCE</b> towards learning?		
<input type="radio"/> have a better chance at <b>SUCCESS</b> later in life?		

These strategies are explicitly taught through our reading program on a regular basis.

Students are encourage to bring books from home to read and to also take their books home to continue reading.





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## Whole College Writing Focus

### What makes an effective piece of writing?

Good writers plan and revise, rearrange and delete text, re-reading and producing multiple drafts before they produce their finished document. This is what a process writing approach is about.

Students at NSC are explicitly taught how to write structured responses across Key Learning Areas. We use the TEEL structure in paragraphing.

TEEL is an acronym for the following:

**Topic sentence** – introduces the paragraph  
States the main idea of the paragraph  
Uses key words from the topic

**Explanation** – what do you mean by that?  
Explains what you mean by the topic sentence  
Gives more detail about the idea

**Example/Evidence** – what makes you say that?  
Proof/evidence from the text (quotes) and/or facts, statistics  
Supports the argument you have made

**Link** – Why is all that important? Explains how the example links to the main idea  
Closes the argument  
May link to the next paragraph

