

The Lexile Framework for Reading in Action

Cornell Notes

- Pre-Reading
- During Reading
- Post Reading

Description: Cornell Notes, sometimes referred to as ‘two-column notes,’ is a method of note taking that encourages the reader to read for specific, essential information.

How It Works: Cornell Notes offer students a page divided into two columns. In the left column, students are encouraged to record specific information as they read. The types of specific information include: categories, questions, vocabulary words, connections, reminders, and review/test alerts. In the right column of the page, students record the information prompted by the headings in the left hand column. The included template of Cornell Notes contains reminders to students on how to locate important information in a text.

How to Differentiate: Cornell Notes can be useful across the content areas, and with some modification, may also be appropriate in mathematics instruction.

- ◆ Cornell Notes are particularly useful when facing conceptually dense text or text that it is written at or slightly above a student’s Lexile measure.
- ◆ Students may work in groups or individually to answer questions.
- ◆ Students may use Cornell Notes as a graphic organizer for notes as they progress through a long text or a series of related texts.