

Here's a list of **engaging reading activities** for all levels (A1-C1) that make reading **interactive, fun, and meaningful**. These techniques can be used for **whole-class, pair, or group work** to improve comprehension, critical thinking, and vocabulary skills.

1. Jigsaw Reading (A2-C1, Pair/Group Work)

How to do it:

- Divide a text into sections.
- Each student/group reads a different section and takes notes.
- Students then share information to reconstruct the full meaning.

Why it works: Promotes collaboration, summarizing skills, and deeper comprehension.

2. Running Reading (A1-B2, Whole Class, Pair Work)

How to do it:

- Place paragraphs of a text around the classroom.
- One student (the "runner") reads a section and reports it to their partner (the "writer"), who records it.
- Continue until they complete the text and answer comprehension questions.

Why it works: Encourages movement, focus, and teamwork.

3. Prediction Challenge (A1-C1, Whole Class)

How to do it:

- Show students the title, first paragraph, or some key words from the text.
- Ask them to **predict** what it's about.
- Read the text and compare predictions to the actual content.

Why it works: Engages students before reading and activates prior knowledge.

4. Read & Run Relay (A1-B2, Whole Class, Group Work)

How to do it:

- Divide a passage into sentences and place them in different locations.

- One student runs to read a sentence, remembers it, and tells their group.
 - The team must reconstruct the text and answer questions.
Why it works: Makes reading interactive and improves memory skills.
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5. Story Mapping (A1-C1, Pair/Group Work)

How to do it:

- After reading a story, students **draw a visual map** (characters, setting, problem, solution).
 - More advanced students **add quotes or summary points**.
Why it works: Enhances comprehension and creativity.
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6. Choose Your Own Adventure (B1-C1, Whole Class)

How to do it:

- Give students **multiple choices** at different points in the text (e.g., "What should the character do next?").
 - They read different sections depending on their choice.
Why it works: Encourages critical thinking and engagement with the text.
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7. True or False Walk (A1-B2, Whole Class)

How to do it:

- Read a passage and prepare **true/false statements**.
 - Place "TRUE" and "FALSE" signs on opposite sides of the room.
 - Read statements aloud, and students walk to the correct answer.
Why it works: Encourages movement and active participation.
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8. Reverse Reading (Summarize & Write the Headline) (B1-C1, Pair Work)

How to do it:

- After reading, students write a **headline** summarizing the main idea.
 - They swap with another pair who **guess what the article was about**.
Why it works: Improves summarization and main idea recognition.
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- A decorative graphic element in the bottom right corner, consisting of overlapping curved shapes in shades of blue and green.

9. Find the Missing Word (Cloze Reading) (A1-C1, Pair/Group Work)

How to do it:

- Give students a text with **missing words** (key vocabulary).
- They must **guess the missing words** using context clues.
- Higher levels: Use more challenging words or grammar gaps.

Why it works: Improves vocabulary retention and reading strategies.

10. Speed Dating Discussion (B1-C1, Whole Class)

How to do it:

- Assign different parts of a text to students.
- They meet with partners and explain what they read.
- Keep switching partners until all students understand the full text.

Why it works: Encourages comprehension through discussion and repetition.

11. Reading Puzzle (A2-C1, Group Work)

How to do it:

- Cut a text into **paragraphs or sentences**.
- Students work in groups to **reassemble the text in order**.

Why it works: Boosts sequencing skills and understanding of text structure.


12. Compare Perspectives (B1-C1, Pair/Group Work)

How to do it:

- Give students **two different texts** on the same topic (e.g., two news articles with different viewpoints).
- They **compare opinions, tone, and facts**.

Why it works: Develops critical reading and analytical skills.

13. Roleplay the Text (A1-C1, Pair/Group Work)



How to do it:

- After reading, students **roleplay characters** from the text.
 - Higher levels: **Continue the story or imagine an alternative ending.**
Why it works: Engages students in deeper thinking and comprehension.
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14. Mystery Reading (Who Did It?) (B1-C1, Whole Class)

How to do it:

- Give students a **mystery or crime story** without revealing the ending.
 - They gather clues from the text and **guess the ending.**
 - Read the final part and compare.
Why it works: Encourages engagement, inference, and prediction.
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15. 5W1H Reading Challenge (Who, What, When, Where, Why, How?) (A1-B2, Pair/Group Work)

How to do it:

- After reading, students create **5W1H questions** (e.g., "Who is the main character?").
 - They exchange questions with a partner and answer them.
Why it works: Encourages comprehension and question formation.
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16. Sentence Jumble (A1-B2, Whole Class)

How to do it:

- Cut up a text into **sentence strips.**
 - Students must **put them in the correct order.**
Why it works: Enhances understanding of sentence structure and logical flow.
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17. Skimming and Scanning Race (B1-C1, Whole Class, Group Work)

How to do it:

- Give students a text and a list of **quick comprehension questions.**

- They must **skim/scan** to find answers as fast as possible.
Why it works: Develops reading strategies and quick information retrieval.
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18. What's the Genre? (A1-C1, Whole Class, Group Work)

How to do it:

- Give students short texts of different genres (news, fiction, biography, recipe, email).
 - They must **identify the genre and explain why.**
Why it works: Improves text recognition and genre awareness.
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19. Read, Draw, Share (A1-B2, Pair/Group Work)

How to do it:

- Students **read a short passage** and draw a scene from it.
 - Partners must **guess which part of the text it represents.**
Why it works: Improves visualization and attention to detail.
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20. Themed Reading Days (A1-C1, Whole Class)

How to do it:

- Set a **theme** (e.g., "Space Exploration," "Mysteries," "Famous People").
 - Students read **different articles/stories** related to the theme and present key points.
Why it works: Makes reading more relevant and exciting.
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Making reading engaging in an ESL class requires **interaction, creativity, and active participation.** Here are some other **techniques** to make reading more fun and effective:

1. Pre-Reading Activities (Activate Interest & Background Knowledge)

- **Predict the Story:** Show students the title or an image and have them guess what the reading is about.
 - **Word Hunt:** Give students a list of key vocabulary words, and they search for their meanings before reading.
 - **Discussion Questions:** Ask opinion-based or personal experience questions related to the text's theme.
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2. Interactive Reading Techniques (Keep Students Engaged)

- **Jigsaw Reading:** Divide the text into sections. Each student or group reads a part, then teaches their section to others.
- **Running Dictation:** One student reads a sentence from a text posted on the wall and runs back to dictate it to their partner, promoting movement and teamwork.
- **Read & Act:** If the text includes dialogue, turn it into a mini role-play or skit.
- **Pause & Predict:** Stop reading at key points and ask, "What happens next?"

3. Post-Reading Activities (Reinforce & Extend Learning)

- **Alternate Ending:** Have students rewrite or discuss a different ending to the story.
- **Comic Strip Summary:** Students illustrate and summarize the text in comic strip format.
- **Hot Seat:** One student takes on the role of a character while others ask questions.
- **Speed Retelling:** Students summarize the reading in 30 seconds, then 15 seconds, improving fluency.