



## APPLYING CURRENT APPROACHES TO THE TEACHING OF READING

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**Annotation:** This article explores the contemporary methods used in teaching reading, focusing on the constructivist, interactive, metacognitive, and multisensory approaches. With an emphasis on active learning, critical thinking, and individualized instruction, the article discusses how these methods enhance reading comprehension and promote a love of reading among students. Furthermore, the impact of technology on reading instruction is examined, highlighting both the opportunities and challenges faced by educators. The article also addresses the difficulties in applying these methods, such as teacher training, resource disparity, and time constraints, and offers solutions to overcome these barriers. By analyzing the effectiveness of current approaches, the article provides a comprehensive overview of modern reading instruction strategies and their significance in the evolving educational landscape.

**Keywords:** Reading instruction, constructivist approach, interactive approach, metacognitive approach, multisensory approach, active learning, educational technology, teacher training, reading comprehension, personalized learning.



**Аннотация:** Статья исследует современные методы обучения чтению, акцентируя внимание на конструктивистском, интерактивном, метакогнитивном и многосенсорном подходах. С акцентом на активное обучение, критическое мышление и индивидуализированное обучение, статья обсуждает, как эти методы способствуют улучшению понимания прочитанного и формированию любви к чтению у студентов. Кроме того, рассматривается влияние технологий на обучение чтению, подчеркивая как возможности, так и вызовы, с которыми сталкиваются преподаватели. В статье также рассматриваются проблемы применения этих методов, такие как подготовка учителей, неравенство ресурсов и ограничения по времени, а также предлагаются решения для преодоления этих барьеров. Анализируя эффективность современных подходов, статья предоставляет всесторонний обзор стратегий преподавания чтению и их значимость в меняющемся образовательном ландшафте.

**Ключевые слова:** Обучение чтению, конструктивистский подход, интерактивный подход, метакогнитивный подход, многосенсорный подход, активное обучение, образовательные технологии, подготовка учителей, понимание прочитанного, персонализированное обучение.

## Introduction

Reading is a foundational skill in education that influences academic success and lifelong learning. Traditionally, reading instruction focused primarily on phonics and decoding skills; however, recent trends in educational theory have led to the development of more sophisticated, student-centered approaches. As the world of education continues to evolve, modern pedagogical approaches are reshaping how reading is taught. These approaches, grounded in cognitive psychology and educational research, emphasize active engagement, critical thinking, and personalized learning. This article aims to explore the current methodologies for teaching reading, analyze their impact on students' literacy



development, and identify challenges faced by educators in applying these strategies effectively.

### **Literature review and Methodology**

The evolution of reading instruction reflects a shift from teacher-centered to learner-centered practices. Modern approaches emphasize the active role of the student in the learning process and recognize that each learner brings a unique set of experiences and cognitive abilities. Below are four key approaches currently used in reading instruction[1,144].

Rooted in the theories of Jean Piaget and Lev Vygotsky, the constructivist approach emphasizes the idea that learning is an active process where students construct their own understanding of texts based on their prior knowledge and experiences. In reading instruction, this means that students are encouraged to make connections between the material they are reading and their own lives. The teacher acts as a facilitator rather than a lecturer, guiding students through inquiry-based learning activities [2,674]. Constructivist teaching strategies include collaborative learning, group discussions, and project-based tasks, where students actively engage with texts and each other. By promoting deeper cognitive engagement, the constructivist approach helps students develop critical thinking and problem-solving skills.

The interactive approach to reading instruction is based on the concept that reading is an interactive process between the reader and the text. This method integrates both bottom-up and top-down processes. Bottom-up processing refers to decoding words and sounds to understand the text, while top-down processing involves using background knowledge and context to interpret meaning. In an interactive classroom, teachers focus on helping students develop strategies for predicting, inferring, and questioning the text. This approach encourages students to make connections between their prior knowledge and the content of the text, fostering a more holistic understanding of the material [3.127]. Teachers who use this approach often employ techniques like guided reading, think-alouds, and reciprocal teaching to promote active reading and comprehension.



The metacognitive approach to teaching reading is centered on the development of self-awareness and reflection in students as they engage with texts. Metacognition involves thinking about one's thinking processes, and in the context of reading, it refers to the ability to monitor and regulate one's comprehension. Teachers who use a metacognitive approach encourage students to set reading goals, track their understanding, and adjust their strategies as necessary. For example, if a student encounters a difficult passage, they may be encouraged to reread, look up unfamiliar words, or ask questions about the text. By promoting self-regulation, the metacognitive approach helps students become more independent readers who are better equipped to handle complex texts [3,51]. This approach is particularly useful in developing lifelong reading habits and enhancing reading comprehension.

The multisensory approach to reading instruction involves engaging multiple senses—such as sight, sound, and touch—during the learning process. This approach recognizes that students have different learning styles and that incorporating multiple sensory modalities can enhance understanding and retention[4,454]. For example, students may use visual aids like flashcards and diagrams, listen to audio recordings of texts, or physically manipulate letter tiles during phonics lessons. The multisensory approach is particularly effective for students with learning disabilities, such as dyslexia, as it reinforces learning through different sensory channels. By incorporating hands-on activities and visual cues, the multisensory approach creates an inclusive learning environment where all students can succeed.

### **Analysis and Result**

The implementation of these modern approaches to reading instruction has had a significant impact on student outcomes. One of the most notable effects has been the shift toward more personalized and adaptive learning environments. By incorporating constructivist, interactive, metacognitive, and multisensory methods, educators are able to tailor instruction to meet the diverse needs of their students. This individualization of teaching has led to improved student engagement and better overall literacy development.



Furthermore, the emphasis on active learning has resulted in increased motivation and interest in reading. Students are more likely to engage with reading materials when they are actively involved in the learning process, rather than passively receiving information. The interactive and metacognitive approaches, in particular, foster higher-order thinking skills, encouraging students to critically analyze texts and apply their knowledge in new contexts.

The integration of technology into reading instruction has also contributed to the effectiveness of these approaches. Digital tools, such as e-books, educational apps, and online reading platforms, offer students a broader range of reading materials and personalized learning experiences [4]. These tools can track students' progress, recommend texts based on individual interests and reading levels, and provide interactive features that engage students more deeply in the learning process.

Despite the benefits of these approaches, there are several challenges to their widespread implementation[5,49]. One of the primary obstacles is the lack of teacher training. Many educators are not adequately prepared to implement these innovative approaches, particularly in schools where professional development opportunities are limited[6,475]. To address this, schools and education systems should prioritize ongoing teacher training, ensuring that educators are equipped with the knowledge and skills necessary to implement modern reading instruction methods effectively.

Another challenge is the disparity in resources between schools. While some schools have access to advanced technology and diverse reading materials, others may struggle with outdated textbooks and limited digital resources. This inequality can hinder the application of multisensory or interactive methods. To overcome this challenge, policymakers should focus on equitable funding and resource allocation, ensuring that all schools have the tools they need to provide high-quality reading instruction[5,63].

Lastly, the time constraints imposed by rigid curricula and standardized testing can limit the ability of teachers to implement these approaches in depth. A possible solution to this issue is the integration of reading instruction across various



subjects, allowing students to apply reading strategies in different contexts and reinforcing their skills in a more holistic manner.

### **Conclusion**

The current approaches to teaching reading—specifically, the constructivist, interactive, metacognitive, and multisensory approaches—have significantly improved reading instruction. These methods not only enhance students' reading skills but also play a crucial role in developing critical thinking, independent learning, and active participation in the learning process. Through the constructivist approach, students are encouraged to construct their own understanding based on their prior knowledge and experiences, which allows for a deeper and more effective engagement with texts.

The interactive approach enables students to go beyond merely reading texts; it promotes discussion, questioning, and the application of knowledge to new contexts. This method fosters a more holistic understanding of reading and comprehension. The metacognitive approach, which encourages self-awareness and regulation of one's thinking processes while reading, helps students become more reflective and strategic readers. By monitoring their comprehension and adjusting strategies as needed, students gain the skills to independently navigate complex texts.

The multisensory approach is particularly beneficial in catering to different learning styles and supporting students with learning difficulties, such as dyslexia. By engaging multiple senses—visual, auditory, and tactile—this approach enhances learning and retention, ensuring that all students, regardless of their learning preferences, can access the content effectively.

Despite the proven benefits of these approaches, several challenges remain in their implementation. One of the major obstacles is inadequate teacher training, as many educators lack the knowledge and resources to effectively implement these innovative methods. Ongoing professional development for teachers is essential to ensure they are equipped to meet the needs of diverse learners. Another significant challenge is the disparity in resources across schools, with some institutions lacking



access to modern technology and learning materials. Equitable resource distribution is necessary to ensure that all students benefit from high-quality reading instruction.

Moreover, rigid curricula and the pressure of standardized testing can limit the depth with which these approaches are applied in the classroom. To address this, educators could integrate reading instruction across subjects, allowing students to apply reading strategies in a variety of contexts, thereby reinforcing their skills in a more comprehensive manner.

In conclusion, the modern approaches to reading instruction offer significant potential for improving literacy outcomes. By focusing on active, personalized, and multisensory learning, these methods foster a deeper connection with texts and prepare students for lifelong learning. However, to fully realize the potential of these approaches, challenges such as teacher training, resource disparity, and time constraints must be addressed. By investing in teacher development, ensuring equitable access to resources, and embracing flexible curriculum models, the education system can better support the diverse needs of students and help them become proficient, independent readers.

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