TEXT PROCESSING STRATEGIES

Identifying reading purposes and reading strategies

1. Look at the texts on these pages and find

- a page from a science textbook
- the contents of a magazine
- a page from a computer handbook
- a newspaper article
- a comic strip
- the beginning of a short story

CONTENTS

- BITZ: Michael Jackson makes an advert, Hue And Cry have an argument.

 Barry White eats a sandwich. . . plus lots of competitions.

- 23 HAPPENINGS: The indispensable guide to who's
- 24-26 GEORGE MICHAEL: "Falling in love makes you feel absolutely sick," says George. Pass the *Tumms*, matey...
- 30-31 HOW FAMOUS ARE YOU?: When your name is uttered do people go "Cor! Wow!" or do they go "Er. . .who?"
 - 33 RSVP: Write to pop swots everywhere.
- 33 RSVP: Write to pop swots every more as a second to build high rise THE HOUSEMARTINS: "Please don't scream at our concerts. And flats," they say. "Please don't scream at our conce please don't buy any more Rick Astley records!"!?
- 42 COMPETITION: Win loads of "trendy" sportswear!
- 45 GET SMART!: Where have Duran gone? How much was Siobhan's wedding dress? And is Bruce Willis very old indeed? All your Qs are A-ed.
- 49-56 POSTERS: Lavishly coloured portraits of such brilliant pop stars as The Communards, T'Pau, Wet Wet Wet and The Smiths.
- 70-72 PHILLIP SCHOFIELD: What's life like for young Phil now he's left Jimbo And The Jet Set behind him?
- 75 PERSONAL FILE: Alexander O'Neal.
- 78-86 REVIEW: Zodiac Mindwarp lavishes praise on singles by Madonna and Five Star, plus we review LPs by Rick Astley and Eurythmics and there's an on-the-"spot" account of Marillion live. And Lorraine from Five Star writes a book!
- 91-92 LETTERS: The viewers speak, well, write actually.
- 95 ERIC B: What's his new rap tune all about? Eric spills the
- 101 STAR TEASER: A puzzle among puzzles!
- 102 MUTTERINGS: True or false? The decision is yours!



George Michael: Page 24



Marillion: Page 84



Page 38

No revenge, urges dead fan's father



THE father of Mark Smith, aged 17, the football supporter who died after being attacked on his way to a match, appealed yesterday to fellow fans not to seek

fellow fans not to seek revenge.

Mark, a Plymouth Argyle supporter, was knocked to the ground and kicked about the head before his team's away match with Swindon Town on Saturday. He collapsed during the game and, despite an emergency operation for a blood clot on the brain, died on Tuesday night.

Detective Superintendent Tom Fraser, who is leading the police investigation, said:

Tom Fraser, who is leading the police investigation, said: "Many serious charges will be considered. It would be remiss of me to say that murder won't be one of them".

Nine people were arrested after the match.

Emphasis codes:

* Underline Full underline y

Mark Smith - "liked his football'

Sturmtruppen









1990 BONVI/McK ITALY

The Emphasis menu

The items in this menu can either be set or cleared by pressing the + and - keys. [ENTER] is pressed when you have the combination

The description here describes the state when the parameter is set. Only setting the Underline option calls up a further submenu.

Full underline Both words and the spaces between words are underlined. The underlining appears both on the screen and when the document is

Word under line Words are underlined but spaces are not. The underlining appears both on the screen and when the document is printed.

Subsequent characters are emboldened. This only shows when the document is printed. Bold is not shown on the screen.

The printer is put into its Double-strike mode for printing subsequent characters. The effect is not shown on the screen.

ReVerse Video

Subsequent characters on the screen are shown in reverse video. The effect is not shown when the document is printed.

GENESIS AND CATASTROPHE

A true Story

E

Everything is normal,' the doctor was saying. 'Just lie back and relax.' His voice was miles away in the distance and he seemed to be shouting at her. 'You have a son.'

'What?'

'You have a fine son. You understand that, don't you? A fine son. Did you hear him crying?'

'Is he all right, Doctor?'
'Of course he is all right.'
'Please let me see him.'

'You'll see him in a moment.'

'You are certain he is all right?'

'I am quite certain.'

'Is he still crying?'

'Try to rest. There is nothing to worry about.'

'Why has he stopped crying, Doctor? What happened?'

'Don't excite yourself, please. Everything is normal.'

'I want to see him. Please let me see him.'
'Dear lady,' the doctor said, patting her hand. You have a fine strong healthy child.
Don't you believe me when I tell you that?'

'What is the woman over there doing to him?'

'Your baby is being made to look pretty for you,' the doctor said. 'We are giving him a little wash, that is all. You must spare us a moment or two for that.'

'You swear he is all right?'

Tswear it. Now lie back and relax. Close you eyes. Go on, close your eyes. That's right. That's better. Good girl ...'

I have prayed and prayed that he will

live, Doctor.'

'Of course he will live. What are you talking about?'

'The others didn't.'

'What?'

'None of my other ones lived, Doctor.'

(from Kiss Kiss, by Roald Dahl)

5.11 Dividing up the fractions

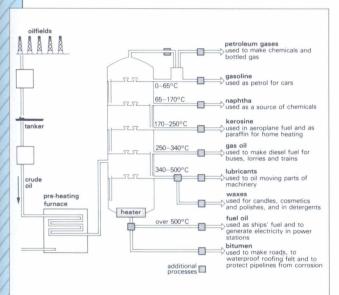


Fig. 5.16 Fractional distillation in industry

As it comes out of the ground – or out of the sea bed – oil is not a single substance. It is a complicated mixture of many different substances called *fractions*. Each fraction is useful to us – each does a different job. So scientists and technologists have designed a process to separate the different fractions. Fig. 5.16 shows how it is done in industry.

You can use the kinetic theory of molecules to explain how the «fractionating column» works. You will remember that *the higher* the temperature, the faster molecules move and that the more massive a molecule is, the slower it moves at a certain temperature (Fig. 5.17).

Suppose that oil was a mixture of only two substances – one substance with very heavy (very massive) molecules, and one substance with very light molecules. If you began to raise the temperature of the oil, the light molecules would move faster than the

heavy ones. They would soon move fast enough to fly off as a gas – leaving the heavy ones behind. So you could separate the two kinds.

Of course, oil is a mixture of many subtances. If you raise the temperature steadily, those with lighter molecules will leave the oil first. Then the next heavier ones, then the next heavier, and so on until only the heaviest are left. In the fractionating column you will find the lightest molecules up at the top and the heaviest down at the bottom. The top of the column is cooler, so the gas will condense back into the liquid – and be piped away.

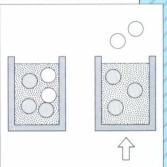


Fig. 5.17 Light molecules speed up faster than heavy ones when a mixture is heated

2. Look at the newspaper article.

A. Quickly find the following information:

- How old was Mark Smith?
- On which day did he die?
- What's the name of the police detective?

B. Find the order in which the following topics are mentioned:

- a) the circumstances of Mark's death
- b) Mark's father's appeal
- c) people arrested
- d) the police investigation

C. Are the following statements true or false?

- 1. Mark was going to a match when he was attacked.
- **2.** His father doesn't want Mark's friends to react violently.
- 3. Swindon Town was Mark's favourite team.
- **4.** Mark's team was playing at home on Saturday.
- 5. Mark died after having a brain operation.
- **6.** Someone will probably be accused of murdering Mark.

3. To answer the questions in each part of Exercise 2 (A/B/C), did you read the text in different ways? If so,

- 4. Which of the reading strategies discussed in Exercise 3 would you use for each of the following purposes? Do you think in some cases you will need a combination of strategies, or no particular strategy at all? Discuss these questions with your partners *before* doing the actual tasks.
- **A.** A friend of yours, who doesn't understand English, has asked you to translate a comic strip into Italian for him.
- **B.** You are using a word processor and need to find out how to underline the words (but not the spaces between words) in a sentence.
- **C.** Someone has given you a book of short stories by Roald Dahl. You want to decide if you would like to read *Genesis and Catastrophe*.
- **D.** You have just bought a magazine and want to check immediately the places and dates of forthcoming pop concerts.
- E. You are going to study a page from a science textbook.
 - First, you want to find out the name of the scientific theory which is illustrated in the text, and the name of the industrial process which is described as an example.
 - Then, you want to explain to a friend why *heating* is necessary in the process described in the text.

5. Look at the magazine contents.

- 1. How many posters are included in this issue of the magazine?
- 2. What prizes does the magazine offer to its readers?
- 3. Are there any articles that give a judgment on
 - records?
 - videos?
 - books?
 - pop concerts?
- **4.** Which page(s) would you turn to
 - a) to play games?
 - b) to find readers' opinions?

6. Look at the computer handbook page.

- 1. You want to print a paragraph in double-strike mode. Will you be able to see this on the screen?
- 2. You choose the **bold** option. Will you get a submenu?
- 3. You want to underline everything in a sentence. Will you be able to see this on the screen?

Listen to a dramatized version of the beginning of the short story. Then answer the questions below. Refer back to the text to justify your answers.

- A.
- 1. Where does the story take place?
- 2. What has just happened?
- **3.** How many people are mentioned? Who are they?
- **4.** What is the woman worried about? Why?
- B.
- **1.** Consider the dialogue in the story. The woman asks most of the questions. Which questions show her to be *suspicious* of what is happening?
- 2. How do you think the doctor's answers sound to the woman, e.g. reassuring doubtful vague sympathetic worrying firm detached precise?

 How do these answers sound to you?
- C.
- 1. What do you think will happen in the story after this? Does the title of the story suggest anything to you?
- **2.** Do you think the beginning of the story captures the reader's attention and imagination? How did *you* feel after reading it, *e.g.* bored interested moved disturbed curious?
- 3. Would you go on reading a story of this kind? Why/Why not?

8. Refer back to the textbook page and answer these questions:

- 1. Look at Fig. 5.16 and read Paragraph 1. What do you have to do to separate the different fractions?
- 2. Look at Fig. 5.17 and read Paragraph 2. Will molecules move *slower* or *faster* if you raise the temperature? Which molecules will move slower, the *heavy* ones or the *light* ones?
- 3. Read Paragraphs 3 and 4 and look back at Fig. 5.16.

 Which part of the column is warmer, the top or the bottom?

 Which substance has the heavier (more massive) molecules, gasoline (petrol) or kerosine (paraffin)? Can you say why?