

How to eliminate reading comprehension detractors:

1. Avoid answer choices not mentioned in the reading.
2. Avoid opinions not inferred by the author.
3. Avoid opposite information to that in the text.
4. Look for detracting information such always, about, usually, almost, never, should, must, and other limiting words. They are not always wrong, but they could be a trigger.
5. Watch for questions that use the exact wording in the reading but give information not covered in the reading or addressed by the question.
6. Don't answer a question on what you believe personally to be true. Stick to the author's intent.
7. Don't be trapped by general information commonly known about the topic. Such information may be generally true, but goes beyond the scope of the reading or is not the main idea the author wants you to understand.
8. Don't read the answers first and then try to find them in the reading. Read the question first, then the passage, and then the answers...in that order.
9. Try to eliminate all answers. Remember the "Liar, liar, pants on fire" technique. You will be left with only one choice if you do this.
10. READ TO UNDERSTAND! Don't try to just "get through" the reading. Read as if you would be handed \$3500 for every reading question you got right. You would get 70,000 dollars ($\$3500 \times 20$ reading questions) which is the starting salary of many police positions. Make the reading count for you.