

# Skimming and Scanning

**Skimming:** Skim through a text quickly to get the general idea.

**Scanning:** Scanning through a text to find a specific word or bit of information.

## You can skim to:

- find out the main plot of a book and decide if you want to read it;
- quickly find out if a website is useful for your research project;
- get an overview of the latest stories in a newspaper;
- remind yourself what a familiar text was about;
- find interesting deals in a catalogue;
- find out what is scheduled in a TV guide.

## You can scan to:

- find a word in a dictionary;
- find the time of a specific train on a timetable;
- check what time a programme is on TV;
- find a fact on a website;
- find your name on a list;
- find an address in an address book;
- check the date of a historical event.

