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Academic ESL World History: Unit 2.1. Phoenician Trade, Reading, Skimming and Scanning

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I. PHOENICIAN TRADE

Source: <https://www.ancient.eu/article/881/trade-in-the-phoenician-world/>

Extensive Reading Exercise - Skimming and Scanning

When we read, we automatically start looking for clues and references to our own knowledge about the world. On the one hand, we need to understand the actual words, but we also need to understand content: What is this text about? To find the main topic of the text, you start reading in search for something familiar. When we browse through a text looking for meaning, we call it skimming and scanning. We skim through the text and scan for keywords that seem to help us understand the text better. Another type of reading is reading for detail. We call that intensive reading. In this exercise you will trace familiar aspects of your own world in a text about the past. You will study how trade, exchange and the beginning of commerce started ca. 3000 years ago along the coasts of the Mediterranean Sea and how trading activity led to vibrant diverse cities where ideas and goods transferred between peoples and cultures over vast geographic space.

1. BEFORE YOU READ:

- a. Free Writing/ Write for 10 minutes

Consider your home country. Which type of relationship does your country have to trade? What does it export and import from other parts of the world? Is the capital in your country involved in trade? How did commerce and trade evolve in the past and who was in control of it?

- b. Go over the following expressions in the left column. Explain the meaning in your own words. Use a dictionary if necessary.

Expression	Explain in your own words
seafaring skills	
Trade route	
caravan	
To necessitate the establishment of	
To be the equivalent of	

c. Find a synonym for each word or expression

commodity	
To manufacture	
reciprocal	
To bestow token on somebody	
goodwill	

2. READING ACTIVITY

Skim through the first three paragraphs of the text. What does the text tell you about the Phoenicians, their trade and commerce? Write your notes in the box. Write freely, do not copy!

3. Read the next three paragraphs: Scan the text and for information about “methods of exchange”. Summarize which three different forms of exchange existed at the time of the Phoenicians? Keywords: Favors and gifts, military protection, nobility, and power.

4. Trading Goods

The next paragraphs describe the different trading goods. Pick one topic. Skim through the paragraph. Take notes. Write one sentence that summarizes the information in the paragraph.

My Notes	My Statement

5. Legacy

- a. What does the word “legacy” mean? Explain in a full sentence.
- b. Use your own words to summarize the legacy of the Phoenicians in a minimum of five sentences.