

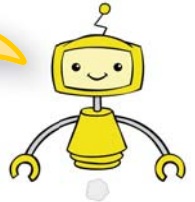
# Skimming a sports page

**LINKS TO:**  
Stage 2, Module 10  
Learning Object 2: Me too



Oh no! I totally forgot that my PE assignment is due tomorrow! Coach is making me write a paper on the role of sport in Indonesian society and I haven't even started! I've found plenty of sporting websites, but how will I manage to read through them all and still have time to write my assignment? Zaaaaak! Put the chocolate down, come and help!

Don't worry, Peter! Calm down! You don't have to waste time reading through each website in detail. I'm going to show you how to skim a text and then you'll be writing your assignment in no time! Good thing you've got such a smart robot to bail you out of trouble! Really! What would you do without little old me?



## Reading for a purpose

1

If you've got a deadline and you need to get information quickly, you'll need to use some speed reading — or skimming — techniques.

The first step is to be really clear about the type of information you need to get from your reading.

If the reading you're doing is for an assignment, the best place to begin is by breaking down your essay question or task. Let's use Peter's assignment as an example.

### Tugas Mata pelajaran Olahraga

**Macam tugas:** Esei Penelitian  
**Tanggal harus dikumpulkan:** di kelas besok!!!  
**Guru:** Pak Harsono  
**Panjang esei:** 1000 kata

Bicarakan peran olahraga di dalam masyarakat Indonesia.

Dukung argumentasimu dengan pembicaraan mengenai paling tidak dua (2) macam olahraga yang dimainkan di Indonesia.

What are the key words or phrases that tell Peter what kind of information he will need to look for in his research? Usually, when we look at an essay question, we first look at what we are being asked to do — the verb or verbs! In this question, the two words that tell Peter what kind of essay to write are related:

*bicarakan* discuss

*pembicaraan* discussion

There are lots of other words you might commonly see in an essay question.

For example:

<i>berdebat</i>	argue
<i>membandingkan</i>	compare
<i>kontras</i>	contrast
<i>menganalisis</i>	analyse
<i>menerangkan</i>	explain
<i>meringkas</i>	summarise
<i>menafsirkan</i>	interpret

## The five Ws...

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The next thing to look for is what Peter is being asked to discuss. Coach has asked Peter to discuss two things:

- general: sport in Indonesian society
- specific: two sports played in Indonesia.

The first key phrase (sport in Indonesian society) is quite general, but it's the element that tells Peter what kind of information to look for: what role sport plays in Indonesian society. From this, Peter understands that he needs to look for general information about sport in Indonesia. A good place to start to expand our understanding of this task would be to brainstorm the essay question using the classic five 'W' questions (see box at right).

The second key phrase (two sports played in Indonesia) is very specific. Peter will need to select two sports that are played in Indonesia, and do some research about them. Because Peter doesn't yet know much about what sports are played in Indonesia, he will need to do some preliminary research first, and then make a decision about which sports to focus on.

Now that we know what Peter is looking for, we can learn some techniques for how to read quickly while getting all the information we need.

### Who?

Who plays sport? Who organises sports clubs or games? Who watches sport etc.

### What?

What games are played? What clubs, sports organisations, teams or well-known athletes are there in Indonesia? What national or international sports does Indonesia compete in? What broader impact does sport have on Indonesian society?

### When?

Are there seasonal sports (like tennis in summer and rugby in winter)?

### Where?

The general 'where' is set for this essay: Indonesia, but it could be useful to find out if there are different sports played in different regions.

### Why?

Are there reasons for the popularity of particular sports?

## Finding the right text

3

Skimming texts, in a library or online, to find ones that will be useful to you is a bit like window shopping. You're looking for something that seems about right before you take a closer look.

What clues will help you to identify useful texts?

### Title and author

Does the title relate to your topic?  
Is the author a reliable source of information?

### Table of contents

Are there chapters that suggest they'll be particularly useful for your research?

### Sub-headings

Within a chapter or article, skim through the sub-headings. The sub-headings will give you a sense of

what the article covers in a general sense, including the structure of the argument or information.

### Index

Look up your key words or phrases in the index: Are they there? If you turn to the page where they're mentioned, is there a lot of material, or just a little?

### Glossary

Is there a glossary that defines terms you will need to understand for your essay?

### Pull quotes and sidebars

Are there 'pull quotes' (quotes in separate boxes) or information boxes that provide succinct information that relates to your key words?

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### Illustrations and diagrams

If you flick through the book, article or website, are there images that suggest the book has information about your topic? Are there images you could use to illustrate your paper? Are there tables or diagrams that summarise information you will need? Are the image captions informative and useful?

Examining these aspects of a text will help you decide whether it is useful, and will even help you narrow down which sections of a text may be most useful.



4

## Trying the text on for size

Found something that looks promising? Let's go inside the text and take a closer look. The next step is to skim-read the sections or pages of the text you have identified as potentially useful. What techniques can you use to quickly skim the text for relevant and important information?

### Introduction and conclusion

Read the introduction and conclusion to get a sense of the main thrust of the article or chapter. These elements will tell you the topic of the text. If the text is a book, you might read the preface and skim through the introduction. Often, in a book, the introduction will summarise the book's contents and give you a good sense of where to look for the information you are seeking.

### First and last sentences

Read the first and last sentence of each paragraph to get a strong sense of the article's content.

### Where does the emphasis lie?

Read any sections that are emphasised in the text, such as italicised or bold text, pull quotes, and numbered or bulleted lists.



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## Exercises

### Exercise 1

Peter has found a website that he thinks will be useful for his research.

It is time to skim the text. Use the strategies we've discussed in this work sheet to skim the three pages of the website *Olahraga di Indonesia*.

You might want to highlight key words or phrases that are relevant to Peter's essay!

**Hint!** Remember that it's useful to look at the task you've been assigned before you read the text, so skip ahead and read the questions you will be asked to answer before you start skimming!

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## Olahraga di Indonesia

### Indonesia cinta olahraga



rumah ...

sepak bola ...

bulu tangkis ...

**Olahraga di Indonesia** sangat populer dilihat dari partisipasinya pada arena internasional. Olahraga yang paling terkenal di Indonesia adalah sepak bola, diikuti dengan bulu tangkis. Di Indonesia olahraga diselenggarakan oleh Komite Olahraga Nasional Indonesia (**KONI**).

Organisasi ini, begitu juga dengan pemerintah Indonesia, telah menetapkan Hari Olahraga Nasional pada tanggal 9 September.

Pekan [Olahraga Nasional Indonesia \(PON\)](#) menggelar acara multi-olahraga setiap empat tahun. Para peserta acara ini adalah atlet-atlet dari seluruh propinsi di Indonesia. Tuan rumah penyelenggara acara ini didistribusikan di antara propinsi-propinsi tersebut.

Konsep modern olahraga diperkenalkan di Indonesia sejak masa kolonial Belanda. Selama waktu itu sepak bola dan bulu tangkis telah menjadi olahraga populer di kalangan rakyat Indonesia.

Kesepuluh Olahraga Terpopuler di Indonesia berdasarkan tingkat partisipasi dan minat publik.

sepak bola ...>>  
bulu tangkis ...>>  
bola basket ...>>  
renang ...>>  
futsal\* ...>>  
catur ...>>  
tinju ...>>  
pencak silat ...>>  
bola voli ...>>  
tenis ...>>



\* *Futsal adalah permainan bola yang dimainkan oleh dua tim, yang masing-masing beranggotakan lima orang. Tujuannya adalah memasukkan bola ke gawang lawan, dengan memanipulasi bola dengan kaki. Futsal juga dikenal dengan berbagai nama lain. Istilah futsal adalah istilah internasionalnya.*

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## Olahraga di Indonesia

### Indonesia cinta olahraga



rumah ...

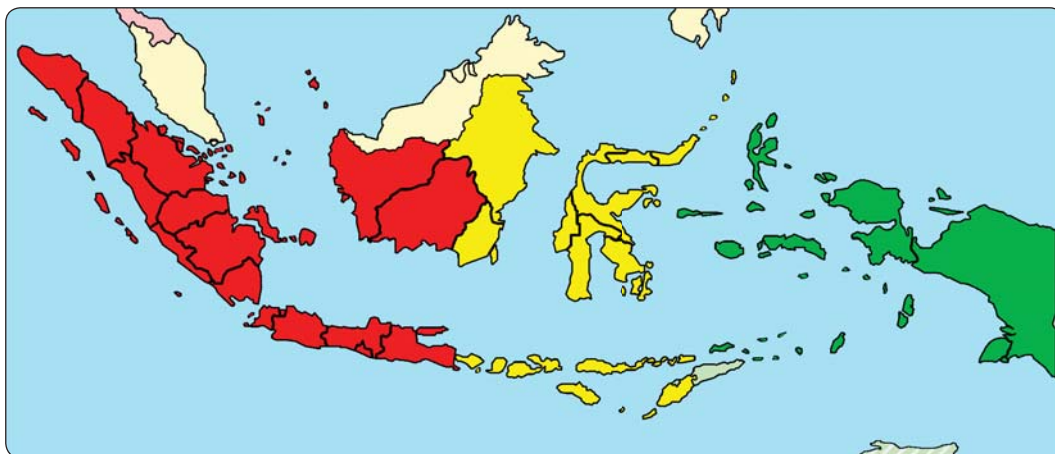
sepak bola ...

bulu tangkis ...

Mungkin sepak bola adalah olahraga paling populer di Indonesia. Olahraga ini dimainkan pada semua tingkatan, dari anak-anak sampai pria separuh baya. Kompetisi sepak bola utama di Indonesia adalah [Liga Super Indonesia](#) yang terdiri dari 18 klub. Keempat tim utama dari kompetisi 2011–12 adalah [Persipura Jayapura](#) (juara liga), [Arema FC](#) (peringkat kedua), [Persija Jakarta](#) (peringkat ketiga)

dan [Semen Padang](#) (peringkat keempat). Di bawah kompetisi elit ini ada pula kompetisi liga nasional Indonesia yaitu [Divisi Utama](#). Di akhir setiap musim kompetisi, ketiga tim yang menduduki peringkat teratas di Divisi Utama dipromosikan ke Liga Super Indonesia, menggantikan ketiga tim yang duduk di peringkat terendah di liga ini.

Lokasi tim-tim yang ikut serta dalam kompetisi Liga Super Indonesia 2011–12



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## Olahraga di Indonesia

### Indonesia cinta olahraga



rumah ...

sepak bola ...

bulu tangkis ...

Bulu tangkis adalah olahraga Indonesia yang paling sukses. Indonesia telah memenangkan medali emas di cabang olahraga bulu tangkis di setiap [Olimpiade](#) sejak olahraga ini pertama kali diperkenalkan dalam Olimpiade di Barcelona pada tahun 1992. Pada Olimpiade ini, [Alan Budikusuma](#) meraih medali emas di cabang tunggal putra dan [Susi Susanti](#) meraih medali emas di cabang tunggal putri. Tahun 1996 di Olimpiade Atlanta [Ricky Subugja](#) dan [Rexy](#)

[Mainaky](#) meraih medali emas di cabang ganda putra. Pada Olimpiade Sydney tahun 2000 [Candra Wijaya](#) dan [Tony Gunawan](#) meraih medali emas di cabang ganda putra. Berikutnya di Olimpiade Athena tahun 2004 [Taufik Hidayat](#) meraih medali emas di cabang tunggal putra dan pada Olimpiade Beijing tahun 2008 Indonesia memperoleh medali emas di cabang ganda putra dengan pasangan [Markis Kido](#) dan [Hendra Setiawan](#).

Tabel Perolehan Medali Kompetisi Bulu tangkis Olimpiade 1992–2008

Peringkat	Negara	Emas	Perak	Perunggu
1	Republik Rakyat Cina	11	6	13
2	Korea Selatan	6	7	4
3	Indonesia	6	6	6
4	Denmark	1	1	2
5	Malaysia	0	2	2
6	Britania Raya	0	1	1
7	Belanda	0	1	0
<b>Jumlah</b>		24	24	28

Selain kompetisi Olimpiade pemain-pemain Indonesia juga memperoleh kesuksesan di turnamen-turnamen bulu tangkis kelas dunia seperti [Kejuaraan All England](#) yang dimenangkan pebulutangkis legendaris Indonesia [Rudy Hartono](#) tujuh kali berturut-turut di antara tahun 1968 hingga tahun 1974. Dari semua negara yang berpartisipasi dalam kompetisi [Thomas Cup](#) (kejuaraan tim putra sedunia) tim Indonesia memenangkan 13 dari 24 kejuaraan yang telah diadakan. Selain itu Indonesia memenangkan pula kompetisi [Uber Cup](#) (kejuaraan tim putri sedunia) sebanyak tiga kali.

Walaupun masyarakat Indonesia tertarik akan semua jenis olahraga, hanya kedua olahraga yang dibahas di atas ini dimainkan secara luas oleh semua lapisan masyarakat Indonesia. Hal ini mungkin disebabkan karena peralatan yang diperlukan untuk memainkan kedua cabang olahraga ini tidak terlalu mahal harganya. Di seluruh Indonesia kita dapat melihat orang bermain sepak bola di lapangan yang kosong atau bermain bulu tangkis di jalanan. Mungkin olahraga-olahraga ini populer karena mudah dimainkan, kapan saja, di mana saja dan dengan siapa saja.

**1.1** First, you should have gone 'window shopping' through the text, using the techniques you've learnt, to skim-read the features that appear on the website.

**Comment on the following features. What sort of information can you get from them?**

**1.1.1 Title and author**

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**1.1.2 Table of contents**

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**1.1.3 Headings and subheadings**

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**1.1.4 Index or menus**

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**1.1.5 Illustrations and diagrams**

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**1.2** This resource looks very useful!

Let's have a closer look at the content of the text.

**Summarise the information you can glean from the text just by reading the first and last sentences of each paragraph.**

**1.2.1 Paragraph 1**

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**1.2.2 Paragraph 2**

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**1.2.3 Paragraph 3**

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**1.2.4 Paragraph 4**

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**1.2.5 Paragraph 5**

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**1.2.6 Paragraph 6**

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**1.2.7 Paragraph 7**

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**1.2.8 Paragraph 8**

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**1.3** Decide whether Peter should read this text in greater depth.

**Do you think this article contains information that is useful for Peter's assignment?**

**Explain your answer.**

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## Exercise 2

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Read the web pages in Exercise 1 in more detail.

**2.1** Now that you have skimmed the text it is time to help Peter extract some information for his assignment.

Read the article more carefully this time and answer the questions below.

**2.1.1 How can people who are not Indonesian deduce that sport is popular in Indonesia?**

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**2.1.2 Research and describe the role of the *Komite Olahraga Nasional Indonesia (KONI)*?**

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**2.1.3 How do we know that sport plays an important role in Indonesian society?**

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**2.1.4 When was the concept of competitive sport introduced to Indonesia?**

**Which sports are the most popular?**

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**2.1.5 From your knowledge of both Indonesian society and popular sports within Indonesia, are you surprised by the sports included in the list of the ten most popular in Indonesia?**

**Explain your answer.**

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**2.1.6** Look at the standings of the top four teams in the *Liga Super Indonesia* 2011–12 season and the location of these clubs in Indonesia.

**From this information, what can you infer about the strength of the soccer league in Indonesia?**

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**2.1.7 Why do you think the article names every single Olympic gold-medal-winning Indonesian badminton player?**

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**2.1.8** In Australia, we look up to Sir Donald Bradman as an Australian sporting icon.

**Does Indonesia have any great sporting icons? Identify them and summarise their achievements.**

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**2.1.9 What other reasons does the article suggest for the widespread popularity of soccer and badminton in Indonesia?**

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**2.2 Which information from the text do you think is most important for Peter to include in his assignment? Explain your reasons.**

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