

# Reading for Opinions

การอ่านเชิงแสดงความคิดเห็น

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## P R E F A C E

This book has been developed for *Reading for Opinions*, the second reading course for the undergraduates level. In this course, the students are introduced to argumentative texts, which are more complicated in nature than the texts they have been exposed to in their first reading course. Reading argumentative text helps students to master their critical thinking, to be more analytical in the process of their reading, more critical in their evaluation, more informed in making a decision, more adept in their problem-solving skills, and more open in exchanging their views with others. Designed to cater the skills students need for reading argumentative text, this book comprises two parts.

Part I: Theory is divided into three units, Units 1-3. The first aims at facilitating the students' transition from their prior knowledge of informative reading to the nature of argumentative text. The second deals with the structure of argumentative text, students being introduced to the systematic construct of the text. Last is the reading skills deemed necessary for working with argumentative text. Students are guided to each reading skill through extensive examples. The unit is summed up with a long reading exercise where students put to use what they have covered.

Part II: Practice is composed of four units, Units 4-7, which follow a similar structure, are designed to serve the objectives of the course: Distinguishing facts from opinions; Identifying the writer's thesis; Analysing text structure; Understanding the writer's argument; Making generalisation and inferences; Judging evidence and evaluating arguments; Recognising the writer's attitude and tone of voice. Each topic-based unit contains two engaging reading texts of the different stance. Throughout the textbook, the students are able to practice the same reading skills extensively and at the same time are exposed to different viewpoints on the issue. At the end of each unit, students discuss and express their views on the issue, research the issue in depth, and or come up with their own creative ideas on the issue.

It is hoped that the textbook will promote students' reading ability and enhance their critical thinking skills, the important skills that will help them make wise decisions in their daily life.

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