UNIT 2 LEARNING AND TEACHING MODERN FOREIGN LANGUAGE SKILLS

2. 3.2 WHILE-READING ACTIVITIES:

- **True/false statements**

Example: While you are reading decide if the following sentences are TRUE or FALSE. Then check your answers with your partner and correct the false statements together.

	TRUE	FALSE	CORRECTION
The level of math achievement by American students is good.			
The National Mathematics Advisory Panel recommends to introduce computing in the study of Maths.			
Computers and software were seen positively at university decades ago.			
Computing is regarded as a tool only to understand Math concepts.			
Math and computer science are still viewed as separate worlds in most of the American education community.			

- **Writing some Yes/No on the board to focus students' attention while they are reading the text for the first time.**

Example: Teachers can write the following questions Yes/No on the blackboard:

- Is the level of Maths achievement by American students good?
- Does the National Mathematics Advisory Panel recommend to introduce computing in the study of Maths?
- Were computers and software seen positively at university decades ago?
- Is computing regarded positively now?
- Can computer instruction help students understand math concepts?
- Are Math and computer science integrated in most of the American education community?

- **Asking open questions**

Example: Teachers can ask:

- What is the level of math achievement by American students?
- What does the National Mathematics Advisory Panel recommend to do?

And so on …

- **Asking multiple-choice questions**

Example: The level of math achievement by American students is:

- excellent
- good
- mediocre

And so on …

- **Matching exercises: headings and paragraphs, questions and answers**

Example: The text you are going to read is divided into seven paragraphs.
Match the most suitable heading to the corresponding paragraph:

a) Usefulness of computing from kindergarten to high school.
b) Scarcity of resources.
c) Integration of Maths and computer science will be gradual.

d) Recommendation by the National Mathematics Advisory Panel to use computing to study Maths.
e) Positive opinion about computing to study all sciences and many social sciences.
f) Usefulness of computing to study maths below the university level.
g) Hostility towards computers at university decades ago.

- **Completing sentences with the missing information.**

Example: Read the text and complete the following sentences with the missing information.

The level of math achievement by American students is …… so the National Mathematics Advisory Panel has recommended to introduce ……. in the study of Maths. Computers and software were seen …… at university decades ago. (and so on).

- **Reading a text and trying to reconstruct it.**

Teachers can remove some sentences from the text and write them in a scrambled order on the blackboard. Then ask students to read the text and fill in the gaps.

- **Matching names to correct definitions**

Example:

1) National Mathematics Advisory Panel	- The activity of developing and using computer technology, including computer hardware and software.
2) Computer Science	- Small group of people chosen to give advice on how to foster greater knowledge of and improved performance in mathematics among students
3) Computing	- The study of the theoretical foundations of computing and the application of the theories in computing.

- **Jigsaw reading.**

This is a collaborative way of reading. You have to photocopy the text and cut it into two parts. You have to divide the class into student A and student B pairs. Then you have to give a piece of the text to each student. Students must not show their piece to the others. Next you have to give each pair a set of questions. The pairs have to work collaboratively to answer the questions since no one has the whole text. At the end pairs compare their answers when they have finished.

- **Ordering a sequence of pictures.**
- **Completing a table.**
- **Drawing a diagram with the information given in the text.**
- **Comparing ideas**. Teachers can ask students to discuss what they understood in pairs or small groups.