

## **THE ESSENCE OF ACTIVE READING:** The Four Basic Questions a Reader Asks

*Ask questions while you read – questions that you yourself must try to answer in the course of reading.*

1. WHAT IS THE BOOK ABOUT AS A WHOLE?
  
2. WHAT IS BEING SAID IN DETAIL, AND HOW?
  - a. Discover main ideas, assertions, and arguments that constitute the author's particular message.
  
3. WHAT OF IT?
  - a. Why does the author think it is important to know these things?
  - b. Is it important to you to know them?

They apply to anything worth reading – a book and or an article or even an advertisement.

*The person who says what he thinks but cannot express it usually does not know what he thinks.*