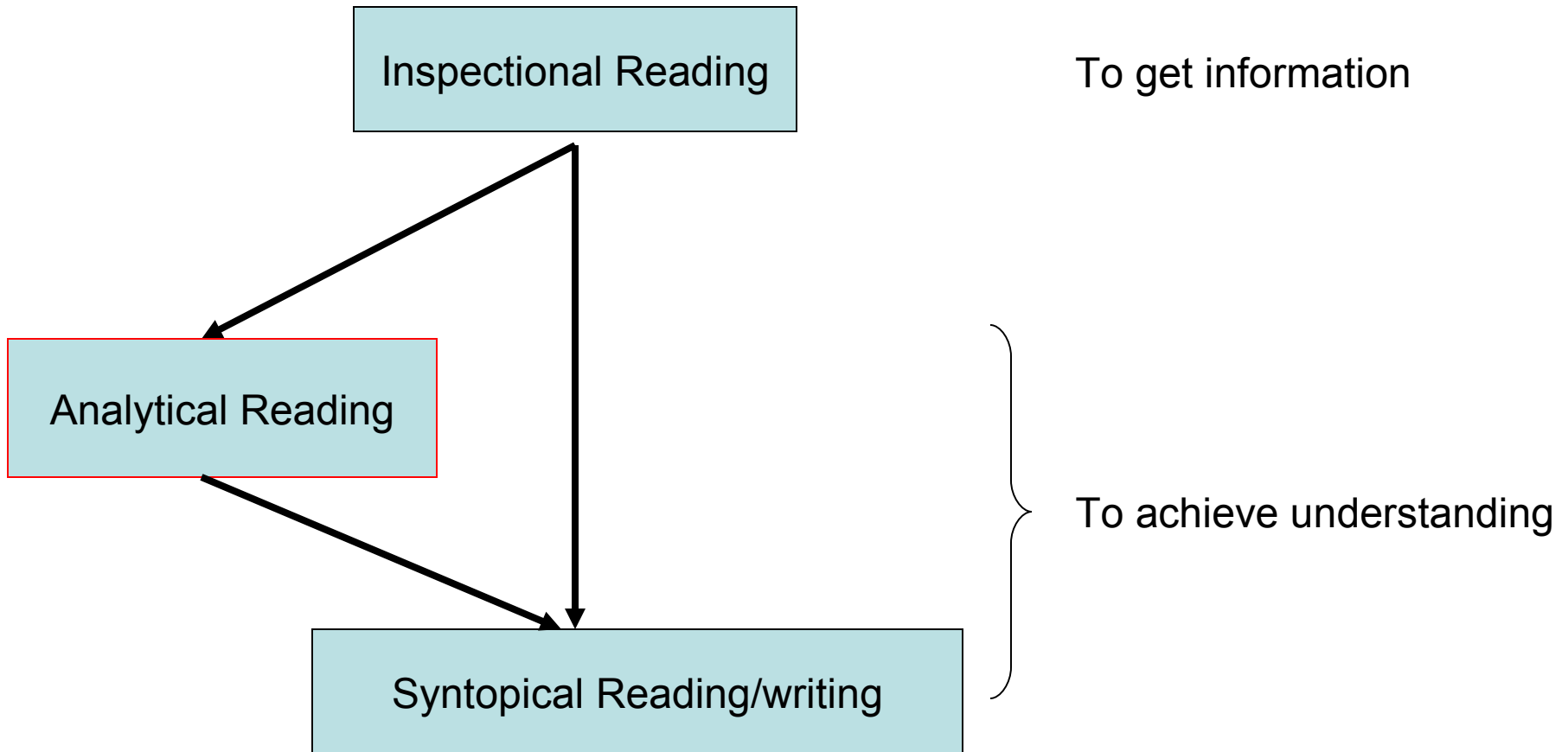


Journal Club

Three levels of reading



“Syntopical” was coined by M. J. Adler, the author of “How to read a book”.

Inspectional Reading

- Abstract
- Conclusion
- Figures and tables
- Goal: to define the problem that the author is trying to solve

Analytical Reading

- Determine the author's message
 - Motivation
 - Approach
 - Argument
 - Solution
- Read between the lines, and write between the lines, too
- Interact with the author
 - Question
 - Agree, disagree, or suspend judgment
 - Bacon: “Read not to contradict and confute; nor to believe and take for granted; nor to find talk and discourse; but to weigh and consider.”
 - Adler: “Disagreement is futile agitation unless it is undertaken with the hope that it may lead to the resolution of an issue.

Syntopical Reading/Writing

- Different papers on the same subject are compared, contrasted, and organized into a whole, NOT just a collection of papers
 - A difference between a heap of bricks, on the one hand, and the single house that they constitute, on the other

Schedule

Month	Speaker
8	JL, ND
9	RL, YX
10	CL, YY
11	YL, SP
12	(CT), (JJ)

- Starting from August, RL will send the group members a list of new journals published during the previous month
- The speakers of the month are free to choose a paper of interest from the list, or an older paper, or multiple papers on the same topic
- The speakers shall send the audience the links of the papers being chosen at least 3 days in advance, so that the audience have time to read
- 20-30 min for presenting, 10-20 min for discussion

Algorithm: $\text{abs}(\text{byte}(\text{first name initial}) - \text{byte}(\text{last name initial})) \bmod 5 + 8$

Get the most out of the journal club

- Speaker
 - Presenting as if you are the author
- Audience
 - Reading before meeting
 - Reading as if you are the referee
 - Asking questions

Comparison

	Difficulty	Speaker Benefit	Audience Benefit
Inspectional	★	★★	★
Analytical	★★★	★★★★	★★★
Syntopical	★★★★★	★★★★★	★★★