

There are three extremely popular strategies students use in avoiding reading. At NOW Academy, the single most popular “coping strategy” is “avoid[ing] eye contact with the teacher” whenever the teacher is talking to the class (Brozo 326). For example, in Mr. Waid’s English 9 class on Thursday, March 20, student X sat with her back to the teacher and her head down the entire period. In addition, during the second week of school, Student Y consistently pretended to be working on his math, but in fact was simply drawing pictures of rocket ships. These students were clearly sending the message: “Don’t talk to me,” and it worked. In both cases the students were left alone and the teacher moved on to other students. Another popular strategy is to “engage in disruptive behavior” (Brozo 326).

Works Cited

Brozo, William G. “Hiding out in secondary content classrooms: Coping strategies of unsuccessful readers.” *Journal of Reading* February 1990: 324-328. Print.