Instructions for completing the reading assignments

1. Decide which sections you are going to read so that they add up to a total of 5 pages. At the top of a piece of notebook paper, write the sections and the page numbers that they correspond to.

2. Read the assigned section and take notes on what you're reading on your notebook paper. This should be a summary of what the author is saying in your own words. Look carefully at any charts or figures, or mechanisms to see what they can add to your understanding. Do a few of the practice problems to make sure you understand them.

3. Write a short, typed paragraph for each chapter (1/3 to 1/4 page single-spaced), discussing your reading experience, using the questions below as a guideline. You don't have to answer all of them – just use them to get ideas of what you could say. You may also comment on other sections if you chose to read any. Do NOT summarize your notes – comment on your reading experience.

- Does the book cover the same things as the class notes? What extra information was there? Was it helpful, or did it seem unnecessary? Did the book skip over anything that was in the notes?
- What more did you learn, or in what ways did this material make sense that you hadn't put together before?
- Are the ideas in a different order in the notes and the text? Explain any differences. Which order made more sense to you, and why?
- Were the mechanisms, charts, figures, or other graphics helpful? What did you learn from them?
- What was your biggest difficulty in understanding the text? In what ways are your reading skills good, and in what ways could you improve?

On the day the reading assignment is due, turn in a typed paragraph stapled to your handwritten notes. Make sure to put your name at the top. Each chapter is worth 10 points, and all together these assignments will constitute 10% of your grade.

Other resources:

Organic Chemistry Made Ridiculously Simple, by Davis, Gene A. Course Reserve, Chem 2310, 2320

Instant Notes: Organic Chemistry, by Patrick, G. QD 256.5 .P37 2004

Schaum's Outline of Theory and Problems of Organic Chemistry, by Meislich, etc al QD 257 .M44 1999

Organic Chemistry as a Second Language: Translating the Basic Concepts, by Klein, David R. QD 256 .K54 2004

Pushing Electrons: A Guide for Students of Organic Chemistry, by Weeks, Daniel P. QD 476.W38 1998 (Useful for chapter 7 and onwards)