Reading Graphic Texts

- **Caption**: A caption is the words next to or underneath a picture that explain what it is or is about.
- **Diagram**: A diagram is a drawing that shows the parts of something.
- **Glossary**: A glossary alphabetically tells new or important words and shows or tells what they mean.
- **Graph**: A graph shows information in a visual way so that it is more easily understood by readers.

- **Heading**: A heading tells the reader what the section is about.
- **Map**: A map is a picture that shows the location of things or places.
- **Table**: A table is a chart of information presented in a visual way. It is often used to compare things.
- **Photograph**: A photograph is a picture made with a camera that shows how things look in real life.
Graphic texts include printed text and a variety of other visual features which may include: captions, diagrams, graphs, maps, photographs, tables, etc. These types of texts are read across the curriculum.
What is the purpose of the asterisk (*) beside “Direct fishing-related expenditures?”
Skimming

- What is this text about?
  - before you read for details
  - eyes move quickly over the text – left to right
  - don’t read every word
  - see if a text or a specific part of a text has the information you are looking for

Scanning

- How is this text organized?
- What types of text and visuals does it have?
  - before looking for details to see what kind of information is there – notice titles, illustrations, graphics, shading, font, etc.
  - eyes move all over the page – not just left to right
  - to find a specific word or section of a text that you will then read more carefully
Skimming and scanning are effective reading strategies and are used together to make meaning before, during and after reading.

On the OSSLT students should:

1. **skim and scan** the graphic text to get the big idea

2. **read the related question** and identify a clear purpose for re-reading the graphic text

3. **re-read the graphic text** to seek out the required information

4. **respond** in the ANSWER booklet
Additional Tips for Reading Graphic Texts

- **Look** at the title first and then look at all of the different kinds of texts – headings, charts, labels, tables, etc.

- **Ask** yourself – **What is the general topic of the text?**

- **Notice** – **Which headings / illustrations seem most important?** Consider size and placement on the page.

- **Consider** – How are the various graphics connected? How is the printed information supported by the graphics?