

● **Do you like to read? When and what do you normally read?**

I read... a lot / every day / very little because I don't have much free time. I like to read... in my free time / when I am on holiday / when I am on public transport. I don't have time for books so I usually read... magazines / newspapers / the tabloids. I spend a lot / most of my time on the internet. I'd rather see a movie / watch television / listen to music.

● **What kinds of books do you like to read? What is your favourite genre?**

I prefer / really like... novels / short stories / biographies / true crime stories. My favourite genre is... science fiction / dramas / thrillers / horror stories. I am a romantic person so my favourite books are... love stories / romance novels / poetry. I prefer... fiction / fantasy stories because... I can use my imagination / escape to another time / place.

● **Who are your favourite writers? Which writers are very popular?**

My favourite writer is... because I really like his / her... style / themes / complicated plots. I think that some of the most popular writers today are J. K. Rowling / Stephen King / Dan Brown. I don't read a lot of contemporary / modern day writers; I prefer the classics.

● **Apart from books what else do you read?**

I like to read... magazines when I am... on public transport / on the train / at the doctor's / at the dentist's surgery. I read a lot of online blogs. I visit a lot of online magazines. At school I have to read many textbooks. I usually / never read a newspaper because it's boring.

● **Do you like to read poetry?**

I love / hate reading poetry. Whenever I read poetry I feel... sad / nostalgic / happy. Poetry is hard / easy to understand. With poetry you have to think about the meaning. Most poetry is... romantic / depressing / bad. I like it when poems rhyme because I like the way the words sound. Poems are... easy / difficult to write. I don't like Japanese haiku poetry; it never rhymes and makes no sense!

● **Do you think it is important for children to read?**

Yes, because it helps them to... develop / grow / be more imaginative. Books can teach you about... the world / science / history / outer space. When I was... very young / small / much younger, my

parents read to me a lot / didn't read to me. My favourite kinds of books were... fairy tales / picture books / short stories like *The Little Prince*. I hated reading when I was a child so my parents let me watch television / play computer games instead.

● **Is it better to read a book in its original version or are translations just as good as the original?**

I think... if you can read a book in its original version it's better than a translation / translated books are just as good as the original versions. There are some things that are impossible to translate like cultural references / idiomatic expressions / humour. The translators must be fluent in both languages. Of course some things will change a little but I think the main ideas are the same.

● **What are the important elements in a story?**

The plot / storyline is the most important thing for a good story. The setting is where the story takes place. I like stories that are set in... the past / the present day / the future / fantasy worlds. Stories that are based on real events / people are the most interesting. The characters are very important. Even if a story is good, if the characters are bad / unlikable / unbelievable it can ruin a good book. The protagonist is the hero / main character. The antagonist is usually the bad guy. Pacing / The speed of a story is also important and I really love a book that I can't put down.

● **Do you prefer reading printed books or e-books? Why?**

I prefer paper books because... they are more comfortable to read / they feel like real books / they don't need batteries / they are easier on the eyes. I prefer e-books because... they are handier / you can have a lot of books on one e-book reader / they are cheaper / you don't have to carry around a heavy book / they are not a waste of paper.

● **Do you think electronic media and technology will replace printed books in the future?**

I think / don't think all books will be in electronic formats in the future because... we need / don't need hard copies of books anymore. Electronic books will be very popular in the future but they can never replace a real book.

● **What was the last book you read?**

The last book I read was... It was written by / The author is... The story is about... The main character was... It was set in...

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