

Reading English outside the classroom

1 Answer the questions.

1 Which of these things do you regularly read in your own language? Circle.

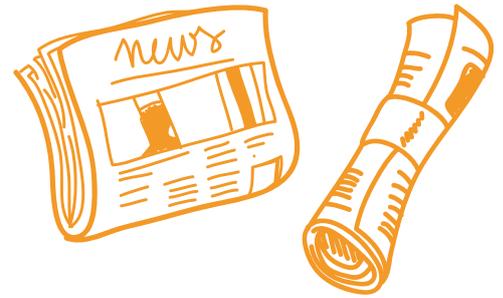
blogs • magazines • newspapers • novels • websites

2 What other things do you read for fun in your own language?

.....

3 Do you like reading in English? Tick (✓) the sentence that describes how you feel.

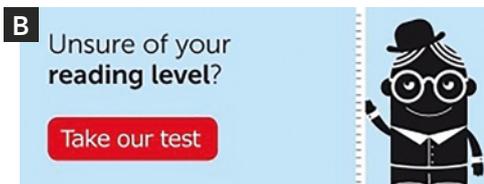
- 1 I enjoy it very much.
- 2 I quite like it.
- 3 It's OK.
- 4 I don't enjoy it.



2 Read a student's reading diary. Match one day from the diary (1-6) to the pictures from the Macmillan Readers website (A-C).



Day



Day



Day

Day 1: Oh, no! Our teacher wants us to read English books outside class. This is terrible news. I can't stand reading. It's too difficult. There are always lots of words I don't know. I haven't got time to read.

Day 2: Today, I took a reading test. I am better than I thought! The test told me that I needed to read a Pre-Intermediate book.

Day 3: Our teacher asked us to choose our book today. I chose a horror story because I like horror films! They are exciting. I was surprised because the teacher told me I could read the book on my tablet. My teacher downloaded the book for me.

Day 4: In class, before I started to read my book, I did some exercises to help me to understand the story. After that, I read the book and listened to it at the same time. It was easier to understand when I could hear and read the words.

Day 5: I like reading the book I chose. The story is very interesting. I'm also learning a lot of new words. I write them down in my vocabulary book.

Day 6: Today I joined my first online book club. I told other people on Facebook about the characters and story of my book. I also read about other books. I think I want to read *The Black Cat* next. It's an adventure story.

3 Read the Study tips. Tick (✓) the English skills that reading helps to improve.

- 1 reading 2 writing 3 listening 4 speaking

STUDY TIP

There are lots of reasons to read English outside the classroom. It can help you:

- to learn to read more quickly.
- to spell correctly and write better.
- to learn new words.
- to improve your grammar. Sometimes you will see new grammar structures. You can ask your teacher what they are and then try to use them.
- to have fun. A good story or an interesting text takes you to another world. You will want to know what happens next!

4 Read a page from a Macmillan Reader called *White Fang*. Answer the questions.

- 1 What sort of animal is White Fang?
.....
- 2 Do you think White Fang is male or female?
.....
- 3 Do you think White Fang is friendly or not?
.....
- 4 What other animals are mentioned in the extract?
.....

Call of the Wild became a big bestseller in 1903. He went on to write *White Fang* in 1906. In his life, he wrote more than fifty books.

By 1913, Jack London was one of the best paid and most widely-read writers in the world. He died in 1916, when he was just forty years old.

A Note About This Story

This story is about a wolf called White Fang. White Fang was born in the wild, in an area called the Yukon. This area is in the north-west of Canada. There are lots of mountains and rivers in the Yukon and the land is covered with forest. You can travel for hours without seeing people or houses. Winters in the Yukon are very cold and very long. In some areas the ground is frozen all year. Many animals live in the wild there—for example, bears, moose, porcupines, weasels and squirrels, as well as wolves.

White Fang was written in 1906. At that time many Indians—native or first peoples—lived in the Yukon. They lived there long before white people. The Indians killed moose and rabbits, and they caught fish. They lived in camps and slept in big tents. The tents were called tepees. The Indians traveled around in long boats called canoes. Or they traveled on sleds pulled by dogs.

In 1886, some people found gold by the Klondike River near Dawson City. When other people heard about this, they all wanted to find gold. So thousands of people came to the Klondike River. This was known as the “gold rush”. These people had to travel a long way. They had to make boats to go down the Yukon River to Dawson City. But most people did not find any gold.

5 Choose a book that you would like to read. Complete the box below and tell your friends or your teacher about your book.

4G 9:20 56%

I want to read
.....

It's a
.....
(e.g. horror, romance, science fiction) book.

I think it's about
.....
.....
.....
.....

I want to read it because
.....
.....
.....