

TOP NOTCH

Top Notch 3 Weblinks

Unit 4

Reading for Pleasure

Some of the forms listed here are in PDF format, which is readable by Adobe® Acrobat Reader®. The Reader is available as a free download at adobe.com/reader

Preview

The following online bookstores sort books by genre and include photos and short descriptions. Students can browse their favorite genres and choose five books that interest them. In pairs, have students talk about their choices and favorite genres.

<https://www.bookbrowse.com/category/index.cfm/tc/tags>

<http://www.alibris.com/subjects>

<http://www.bookcountry.com/readandreview/books/genremap/>

The Amazon.com website lists the current new releases in books. Students can browse the titles, cover images, and descriptions and decide which genre the books are categorized under.

http://www.amazon.com/gp/new-releases/books/ref=sv_b_l

Lesson 1

The websites for Amazon and Good Reads allow users to post short book reviews. In pairs, have students look up a book they have read and decide if they agree or disagree with the reviews. Have students write and post their own review of books they have read and present their review to the class.

<http://www.amazon.com/>

<https://www.goodreads.com/>

The website Read Write Think offers a printable book report template (opens as a PDF file). Students can use the template to take notes about a book they enjoyed. In pairs, students use the information to recommend the book to a classmate.

<http://www.readwritethink.org/files/resources/printouts/BookReview.pdf>

Lesson 2

The following newspapers offer news articles online. Students can browse the different sections and select an article that interests them. In pairs, students describe the articles they chose and ask and answer questions.

The USA Today: <http://www.usatoday.com/>

The BBC (UK): <http://www.bbc.com/>

The Sydney Morning Herald (Australia): <http://www.smh.com.au/>

The Globe and Mail (Canada): <http://www.theglobeandmail.com/>

Amazon.com lists the twenty best selling magazines in the United States. In pairs, have students browse the titles and cover art and choose 3 magazines they think they would enjoy reading and 3 they would not enjoy. Encourage students to use adjectives to explain their choices.

<http://www.amazon.com/Best-Sellers-Magazines/zgbs/magazines>

Lesson 3

The Good Reads website features an interactive reading habits survey. Students can take the survey and compare answers. Invite students to think of other questions to ask.

<http://www.allthetests.com/quiz25/quiz/1218189492/Reading-habits>

The Good Reads discussion forum includes a page which asks readers: “Where and when do you usually read?” Invite students to read through the short responses and find the response that is most like themselves. Have students write their own response and share with the class.

<https://www.goodreads.com/topic/show/1749887-where-and-when-do-you-usually-read>

The Pew Research Center conducted a study on reading habits and technology use among young people. In small groups, challenge students to skim the various charts and answer the following question: What are the reading habits of young people today? Have students support their answers with facts from the study.

<http://www.pewinternet.org/2014/09/10/younger-americans-reading-habits-and-technology-use/>

Lesson 4

The USA Today newspaper has an article titled *Ebooks Are Changing Reading Habits*. Have students read the article and answer the question “Are we reading more or less thanks to technology?” Encourage students to support their answers with facts from the article.

<http://www.usatoday.com/story/life/books/2013/10/06/e-books-reading/2877471/>

The Washington Post has an article titled *Serious reading takes a hit from online scanning and skimming*. Have students read the article and, in pairs, discuss how the Internet has changed how we read. As a class, discuss whether students agree with the opinions expressed in the article.

http://www.washingtonpost.com/local/serious-reading-takes-a-hit-from-online-scanning-and-skimming-researchers-say/2014/04/06/088028d2-b5d2-11e3-b899-20667de76985_story.html