Interests and Reading Survey

**Part 1: Getting to Know Each Other**

1. What is your favorite subject in school? ____________________________
2. What is your favorite pastime or hobby? ____________________________
3. What obligations do you have besides school?
   - □ Work If so, how many hours per week? Where _______________
   - □ Sports If so, what sports? ________________________________
   - □ Music If so, what? ______________________________________
   - □ Family (taking care of siblings, chores, etc.) If so, what? __________
   - □ Community/School Activities If so, please list:


   ________________________________________________________________

5. What is a possible career or occupation you are considering pursuing after completing your education?


   ________________________________________________________________

7. What is your favorite movie? ________________________________

8. What type of music do you like best? ________________________________

9. Name one of your favorite musicians/musical groups: ________________

10. Do you have a favorite poet? □ Yes □ No
    If yes, please tell me who: ______________________________________

**Part 2: Getting to Know Each Other as Readers**

11. How many books are there in your home?
    - □ 0–10 □ More than 10 □ More than 25 □ More than 50
    - □ More than 100

12. How many books do you own?
    - □ 0–10 □ More than 10 □ More than 25 □ More than 50
    - □ More than 100

13. Does your family get a newspaper regularly? __________________________
   If yes, what is the name of the newspaper? __________________________
14. Does your family get any magazines regularly? __________________________
   If yes, which magazines? __________________________
15. Is there a computer in your home?  □ Yes  □ No
   If yes, who uses the computer most often? __________________________
   For what? (Check all the ones that are true)
   □ Internet browsing  □ email  □ business  □ school work
   □ games  □ other (explain) __________________________
16. Does your family read in a language other than English?  □ Yes  □ No
   If so, which language(s)? __________________________
17. Who reads a lot in your home? __________________________
   What do they read? __________________________
18. What are some different reasons people read? __________________________
19. What does someone have to do to be a good reader? (Check only the three
    most important ones.)
   □ read aloud well  □ read with expression
   □ understand what they read  □ concentrate on the reading
   □ read a lot  □ read harder books
   □ pronounce all the words correctly  □ know the meaning of most
   □ know when they are having  □ use strategies to improve their
   trouble understanding  understanding
   □ read different kinds of books  □ other __________________________
   □ read fast
   □ enjoy reading
20. Do you think you are a good reader?  □ Yes  □ No  □ It depends
   Explain why:
21. Do you think reading will be important to your future?  □ Yes  □ No
   Explain why:
22. From what you can remember, learning to read was
   □ very easy for you  □ easy for you  □ hard for you
   □ very hard for you
23. Do you read in a language other than English?
   If yes, which language(s)? ____________________________
   In which language do you read best? _____________________

24. What do you usually do when you read? (Check all that describe what you do.)
   - I read silently.
   - I look over what I’m going to read first to get an idea of what it is about.
   - I try to pronounce all the words correctly.
   - I get distracted a lot while I’m reading.
   - I ask myself questions about what I’m reading.
   - I have trouble remembering what I read.
   - I try to get the reading over with as fast as I can.
   - I read a section again if I don’t understand it at first.
   - I try to concentrate on the reading.
   - I try to figure out the meaning of words I don’t know.
   - I read aloud to myself in a quiet voice.
   - I look up words I don’t know in the dictionary.
   - I picture what is happening in the reading.
   - I try to read with expression.
   - I put what I’m reading into my own words.
   - I try to understand what I read.
   - I try to read smoothly.
   - I think about things I know that connect to the reading.

25. What is the best way for you to read?
   - read silently to myself
   - read aloud by myself or with a partner
   - listen to the teacher read in class
   - listen to other students read in class

26. Do you ever read at home, other than for your school assignments?
   - Yes  □ No
   If yes, what kinds of things do you read? (Check all the ones you like to read.)
   - newspapers □ information books □ song lyrics □ how-to books
   - novels □ cookbooks □ video game
   - letters or email □ poetry □ website pages □ strategy books or magazines
   - magazines □ comic books □ computer manuals
   - other ____________________________

27. How often do you read, other than for your school assignments?

- every day
- frequently
- once in a while, not often
- never

28. How often do you read at home for school assignments?

- every day
- frequently
- once in a while, not often
- never

29. How long do you usually read at a time?

- 1–10 minutes
- 11–30 minutes
- 31–60 minutes
- more than an hour

30. During the past 12 months, how many books have you read? ___________

   How many of these were not for school? _______________________

31. What kinds of books do you like to read? (Check all the ones you like to read.)

- science fiction
- thrillers
- picture books
- adventure/action
- true-life drama
- comic books
- horror
- poetry
- romance
- mysteries
- short stories
- fantasy/myth
- how-to books
- history
- information books
- sports
- science/nature
- teen problems
- (auto)biography
- humor
- none
- other (describe) _______________________

32. Which are your three favorite kinds of books? (Circle three of the ones you checked in question 31.)

33. Who are your favorite authors? (List as many as you’d like.)

34. How do you choose a book to read? (Check all the ones that describe what you do.)

- look at the book cover
- ask a teacher or librarian
- pick a book that looks easy
- look at the pictures in the book
- ask a friend or classmate
- look for books on a particular subject
- read the book cover or jacket
- see how long the book is
- look for an interesting title
- ask a family member
- look for a particular author
- look to see if it has gotten an award
- look in special displays at the library or bookstore
- pick from a best-sellers list

☐ look for books that have been made into movies  ☐ read a few pages
☐ look for particular kinds of books (drama, horror, etc.)  ☐ look for books about my culture
☐ look for books I’ve heard about  ☐ I have no method of choosing a book
☐ other (describe) ____________________

35. Do you ever talk with a friend or someone you live with about something you have read?
☐ almost every day  ☐ once or twice a week
☐ once or twice a month  ☐ never or hardly ever

36. Do you borrow books from friends, family members, or teachers?
☐ almost every day  ☐ once or twice a week
☐ once or twice a month  ☐ never or hardly ever

37. Do you borrow books from the school or public library?
☐ almost every day  ☐ once or twice a week
☐ once or twice a month  ☐ never or hardly ever

38. In general, how do you feel about reading?

Part 3: Final Reflections

39. Write any comments or concerns you have about this class.

40. What do you hope to achieve in this class?

Thank you for completing this survey. I will use your answers to help guide my teaching.