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# 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: \_\_\_\_\_
4. What are your talents? Sports? Music? Drawing? Interacting with others? Making friends? Studying? Reading? Other (describe)? Please list:  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. What is a possible career or occupation you are considering pursuing after completing your education?
6. What kind of writing do you do besides school writing? Letters? Poetry? Notes to people? Journal writing? Email? Other (describe)? What is your favorite kind of writing? Please list:  
\_\_\_\_\_
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  
trouble understanding

of the words

use strategies to improve their  
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.)

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> I read silently.   | <input type="checkbox"/> I try to figure out the meaning of words I don't know.   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> I look over what I'm going to read first to get an idea of what it is about. | <input type="checkbox"/> I read aloud to myself in a quiet voice.                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> I try to pronounce all the words correctly.                                  | <input type="checkbox"/> I look up words I don't know in the dictionary.          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> I get distracted a lot while I'm reading.                                    | <input type="checkbox"/> I picture what is happening in the reading.              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> I ask myself questions about what I'm reading.                               | <input type="checkbox"/> I try to read with expression.                           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> I have trouble remembering what I read.                                      | <input type="checkbox"/> I put what I'm reading into my own words.                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> I try to get the reading over with as fast as I can.                         | <input type="checkbox"/> I try to understand what I read.                         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> I read a section again if I don't understand it at first.                    | <input type="checkbox"/> I try to read smoothly.                                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> I try to concentrate on the reading.   | <input type="checkbox"/> I think about things I know that connect to the reading. |

25. What is the best way for you to read?

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> read silently to myself                | <input type="checkbox"/> listen to the teacher read in class    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> read aloud by myself or with a partner | <input type="checkbox"/> 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.)

- |   |  |   |   |
|---|--|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> newspapers       | <input type="checkbox"/> information books | <input type="checkbox"/> song lyrics      | <input type="checkbox"/> how-to books   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> novels           | <input type="checkbox"/> poetry            | <input type="checkbox"/> cookbooks        | <input type="checkbox"/> video game     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> letters or email | <input type="checkbox"/> comic books       | <input type="checkbox"/> website pages    | <input type="checkbox"/> strategy books |
| <input type="checkbox"/> magazines        | <input type="checkbox"/> computer manuals  | <input type="checkbox"/> computer manuals | <input type="checkbox"/> or magazines   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 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.)
- |   |  |  |
|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> science fiction        | <input type="checkbox"/> thrillers       | <input type="checkbox"/> picture books     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> adventure/action       | <input type="checkbox"/> true-life drama | <input type="checkbox"/> comic books       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> horror                 | <input type="checkbox"/> poetry          | <input type="checkbox"/> romance           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> mysteries              | <input type="checkbox"/> short stories   | <input type="checkbox"/> fantasy/myth      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> how-to books           | <input type="checkbox"/> history         | <input type="checkbox"/> information books |
| <input type="checkbox"/> sports                 | <input type="checkbox"/> science/nature  | <input type="checkbox"/> teen problems     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> (auto)biography        | <input type="checkbox"/> humor           | <input type="checkbox"/> none              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 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.)
- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> look at the book cover                 | <input type="checkbox"/> see how long the book is                             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ask a teacher or librarian             | <input type="checkbox"/> look for an interesting title                        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> pick a book that looks easy            | <input type="checkbox"/> ask a family member                                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> look at the pictures in the book       | <input type="checkbox"/> look for a particular author                         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ask a friend or classmate              | <input type="checkbox"/> look to see if it has gotten an award                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> look for books on a particular subject | <input type="checkbox"/> look in special displays at the library or bookstore |
| <input type="checkbox"/> read the book cover or jacket          | <input type="checkbox"/> pick from a best-sellers list                        |

- look for books that have been made into movies
- look for particular kinds of books (drama, horror, etc.)
- look for books I've heard about
- read a few pages
- look for books about my culture
- 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 month
- once or twice a week
- never or hardly ever

36. Do you borrow books from friends, family members, or teachers?

- almost every day
- once or twice a month
- once or twice a week
- never or hardly ever

37. Do you borrow books from the school or public library?

- almost every day
- once or twice a month
- once or twice a week
- 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.*