Overview

Watch the video podcast. Do you enjoy similar books to any of the people in the podcast?

1 Read the text below about Val's reading habits. Then watch the video podcast from 0:10-0:26 and delete the incorrect words.

Val

I [1] ~~write~~ / read a lot, mostly non-fiction books about history and [2] politics / economics, but I also like some [3] fiction / poetry too. I'm outside the Tate Modern in central London asking people about [4] books / reading. Do you [5] like books / read much ?

Glossary: non-fiction = books about real facts or events, not imagined ones

2 *Do you read much?* Watch the video podcast from 0:27-0:51 and complete the responses.

Rob

1 I do yeah. I try to read as _____ as _____.

Hannah

2 Yeah, I do. I'm a great _____.

Bob

3 Yes I do yes. Mostly _____.

Adela

4 I read a lot of fashion _____.

Alice

5 Yeah, I read a _____ bit.

Robert

6 I read a lot of _____ books.

3 *What was the last book you read?* Look at the titles of the five books below. Then look at the brief descriptions of the books 1-5. Try to match the titles A-E to the descriptions. Then watch the video podcast from 0:52-1:55 to check your answers.

A	B	C	D	E
Water for Elephants	The Search	Breaking Dawn	Johnny Panic and the Bible of Dreams	Dirk Gently's Holistic Detective Agency

1 an 'easy read' that is fun and humorous	E
2 a story about a circus in 1930's America	
3 a collection of short stories by Sylvia Plath	
4 part of the Twilight Saga by Stephanie Myers	
5 It's set in the States. It's about a man who's paid to pursue another person	

4 *What's your favourite book?* Watch the video podcast from 1:58 -2:31 and write true (T) or false (F) next to each statement.

Hannah

Robert

Alice

1 Her favourite book is set in the Second World War. ___F___
2 The book is about a day in the life of an ordinary woman. _____

3 His favourite book is a comic book. _____
4 This book is about "Superman" _____

5 Her favourite book has a French title. _____
6 The book is about a married couple who have a bad relationship. _____

Glossary: traces her existence = follows her life; mundane = about ordinary daily life; siblings = a brother or sister

5 *Which fictional character would you most like to be, or meet?* Look at the people below and read the names of the fictional characters they would like to meet. Then watch the video podcast from 2:31-3:30 and match the characters with the people.

Rob

Bob

Robert

Alice

Hannah

1 The Mad Hatter from *Alice in Wonderland*. ☐

2 Mr Darcy from *Pride and Prejudice*. ☐

3 John Self from the novel *Money*. ☐

4 The character Humbert Humbert from *Lolita*. ☐

5 *The Joker* from the Batman comics. ☐

The way we speak

6 The people in the pictures below talk about books they have read. Read what they say and complete their responses with the words and phrases from the box. Then watch the video podcast from 0:52-2:31 again and check your answers.

last	called	It's about	heard of	traces	recommended
of all time	about	author	it's set	by	called

Hannah

Well, the [1]_____ book I read was *Water for Elephants* [2]_____ Sara Gruen which was a book [3]_____ to me by some friends – I'd never [4]_____ her, or indeed, the book – but I enjoyed it very much. It was a story [5]_____ a circus in the 1930's America. My favourite book [6]_____ is a book [7]_____ *One Fine Day* by Mollie Panter-Downes which is a book about a housewife, just after the Second World War and it just [8]_____ her existence in a day of her life. It's terribly mundane.

Rob

The last book I read was a novel [9]_____ *The Search* by a London [10]_____ called Geoff Dyer and it's about, [11]_____ in the States. [12]_____ a man who's paid to pursue another person and he travels across the land trying to catch him.

Personalisation

7 Write *your* answers to the questions. Try to use some of the language from the video podcasts.

1 What's your favourite book and why?

_____

_____

2 Which fictional character would you most like to be, or meet?

_____

_____

> *BBC* LINK
>
> University students in Scotland are investigating how to use new technology to keep traditional story-telling alive.
> http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/scotland/tayside_and_central/7380901.stm
>
> **BBC**

Unit 4 Stories

Ex 1: correct words: 1 read 2 politics 3 poetry 4 reading 5 read much

Ex 2: 1 much, possible 2 reader 3 non-fiction 4 magazines 5 fair 6 comic

Ex 3: 1E 2A 3D 4C 5B

Ex 4: 1F 2T 3T 4F 5T 6F

Ex 5: 1B 2E 3A 4D 5C

Ex 6: 2 by 3 recommended 4 heard of 5 about 6 of all time 7 called 8 traces 9 called 10 author 11 it's set 12 It's about