



CHOOSING BOOKS TO READ

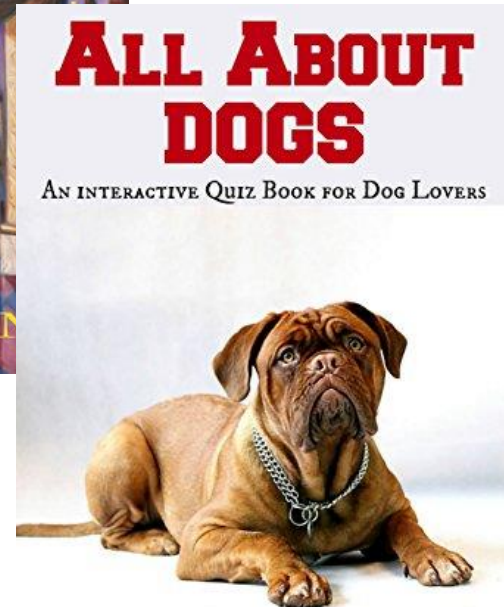
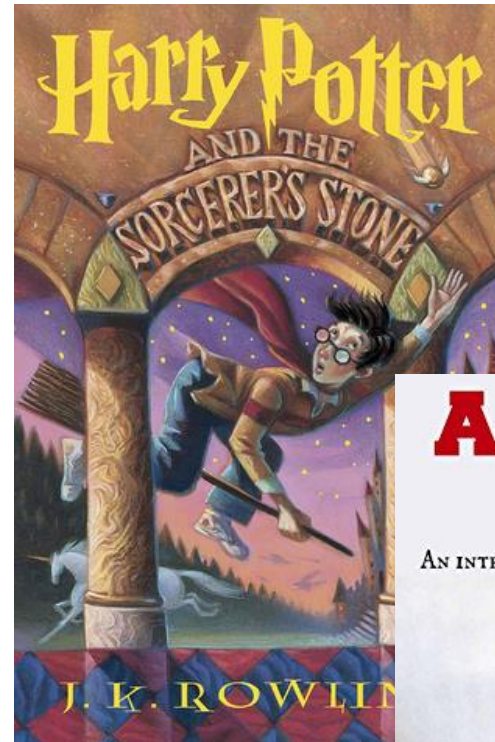
Goals

1. **Preview** books.
2. Choose a book to read.
3. Read silently.
4. Discuss your book with others.



Fiction and Nonfiction

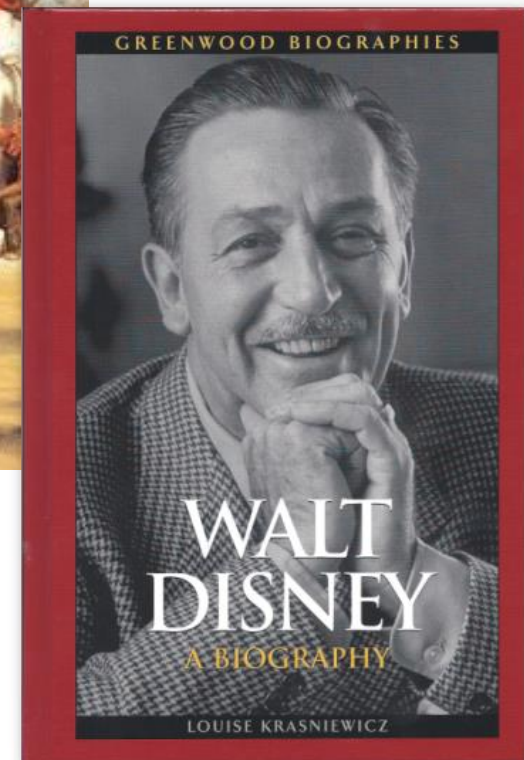
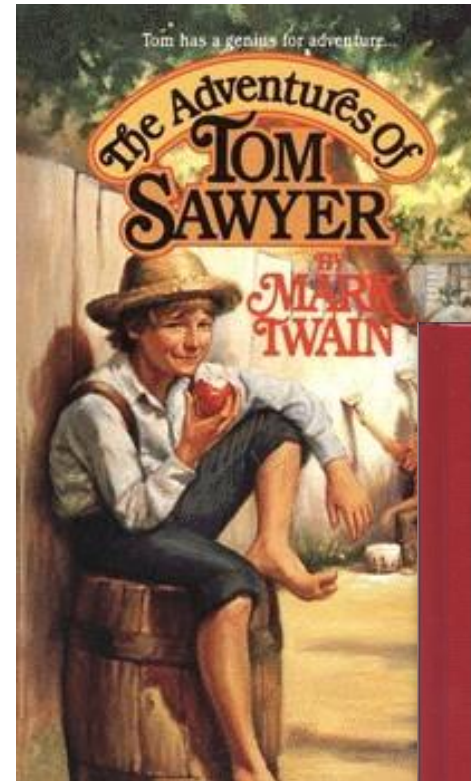
- **Fiction** are stories that are not real / not true. They didn't really happen.
- **Nonfiction** are true stories. They tell us facts.



R.V. Bowman

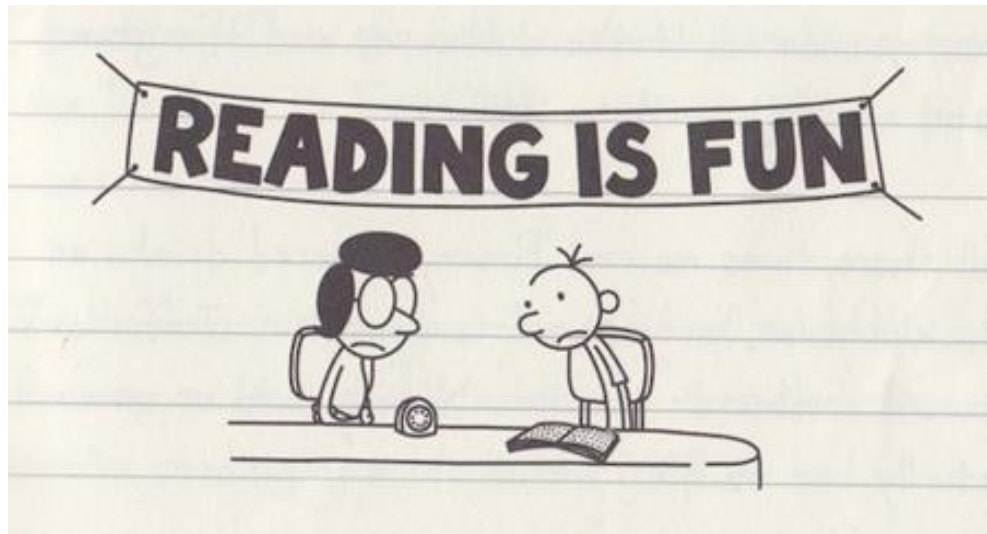
Kinds of Books

- Novels
 - ▣ One long story in one book
- Short Story collections
 - ▣ Many short stories in one book
- Classic literature
 - ▣ Very famous fiction from America, England, or another country
- Biographies
 - ▣ Nonfiction books about someone's life



How to Choose a Book

- The book must be **interesting** to you and **must not be too difficult**.
 - ▣ If it's boring, you won't want to read it.
 - ▣ If it's difficult, you will not enjoy reading it.
- How can you choose the right book for you?



Steps to Previewing a Book

1. Look at the front cover.
2. Read the back cover.
3. **Flip through** the pages and look at any pictures.
4. Read the first page.
 - ▣ Count how many new vocabulary words.



1. Look at the front cover



2. Read the back cover

The HOPES and DREAMS Series
Chinese-Americans
For Gold and Blood



In 1851, two brothers, Soo and Ping Lee,
left their home in China
to go to California.

They hoped to strike it rich in the Gold Rush,
and they dreamed of a better life in America.

This historical novel tells their story –
the story of many Chinese immigrants
to the United States.

At its heart, it is also the story of the
many people from many lands
who have contributed to
MULTICULTURAL AMERICA.

3. Flip Through the Pages

1. Look at the **table of contents**
2. Look at any pictures
3. Look at the size and the amount of text.

4. Read the First Page

- Can you understand it? Does it seem interesting?
- Check the level of vocabulary. How many words are new to you?
 - No new words: the book may be too easy.
 - 1-5 new words: the book is probably the right level.
 - 6 or more new words: the book may be too difficult.

Don't count **proper nouns** (names of specific people and places that use capital letters).

Sayid drove from Manchester to Brunswick.



1 Leaving Home

Guangdong Province, China, 1851

“They call it
Gold Mountain!”
Soo Lee said
to his brother Ping.
“It’s a place
across the ocean.
I think its name
is California.
People with nothing
get rich fast!
They find gold
in the hills
and in the streams!”

“Look at us!”
Soo continued.
“Since the war,
we have had
no real home.
Our family is poor.
All of us
cannot keep living
in this houseboat.

Let’s go
to Gold Mountain!”

“How can you
talk like this?”
Ping asked his brother.
“China is the center
of the Earth.
Our family is here.
Anyway, we could not leave
even if we wanted to.
The country
will not let us go.”

“There are ways
to get out,”
said Soo.
“We can pay
the men at the port.
They will get us
onto a ship
and out of the country.”

Ping Lee
was not sure
he liked Soo’s plan.
But he liked the idea
of finding gold.

Let's Choose Books!

1. Start by choosing **two books** from different levels.
 1. For example: one level 1 book and one level 2 book
2. Preview the books using the steps we practiced.
Complete the previewing worksheet.
3. If you're not interested in either book, or they're not the right level for you, exchange them for new books.
4. Keep previewing books until you find one that you want to read.

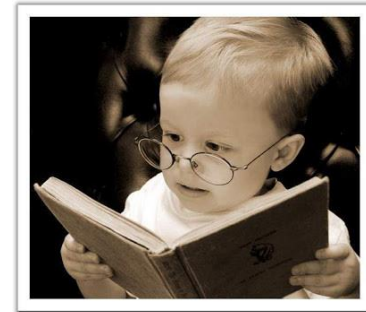


Book Chats

- Groups of 3-4 people.
- Here are some suggestions for talking points:
 - ▣ Where you are in the book (beginning, middle, end)
 - ▣ The level (easy, so-so, difficult)
 - ▣ The setting (where the story happens)
 - ▣ The characters (fiction) or the subject (nonfiction)
 - ▣ What happens (fiction) or what it tells about (nonfiction)
 - ▣ Your opinion about the book
- Everyone else in the group listens and ask questions.

Your Reading Habits: A Discussion

- Share your reading logs.
 - ▣ Who read the most?
 - ▣ Did anyone finish a book?
- What kind of difficulties did you have reading at home?
 - ▣ No time? No quiet place? No energy? Etc?
- Ask your classmates for suggestions for how to read more at home.
- **Were you able to read more or less than last week? Why?**



Reflection: Reading for Pleasure

- Have you enjoyed reading English books for pleasure?
- Do you think these things were useful, interesting, or enjoyable?
 - ▣ Choosing books in class
 - ▣ Reading inside and outside of class
 - ▣ Talking about books with classmates
- Will you continue to read English books for pleasure? Why or why not?