

Getting the reading habit



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THE MACMILLAN
ONLINE CONFERENCE
2011

What is extensive reading?

- reading lots of different texts
- reading a variety of texts
- reading for pleasure
- reading without a task, a test or a set of exercises
- reading for gist
- reading for information
- just plain reading

Which definition do you prefer? Why?

So what's the big deal?



you can...



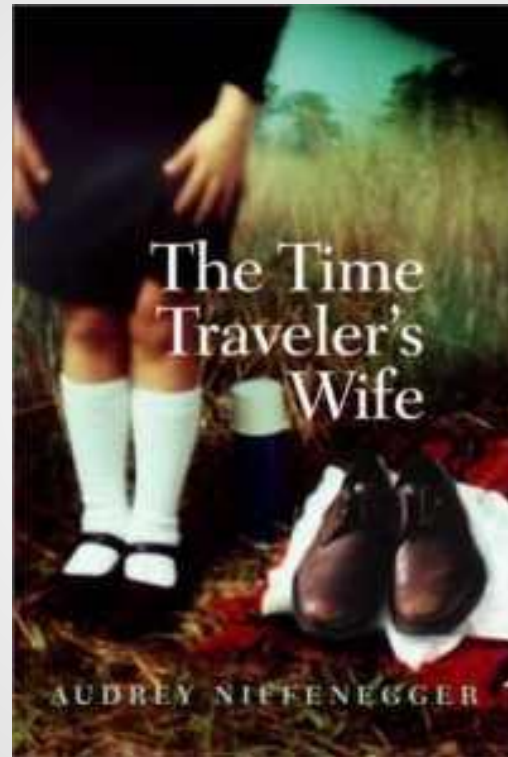
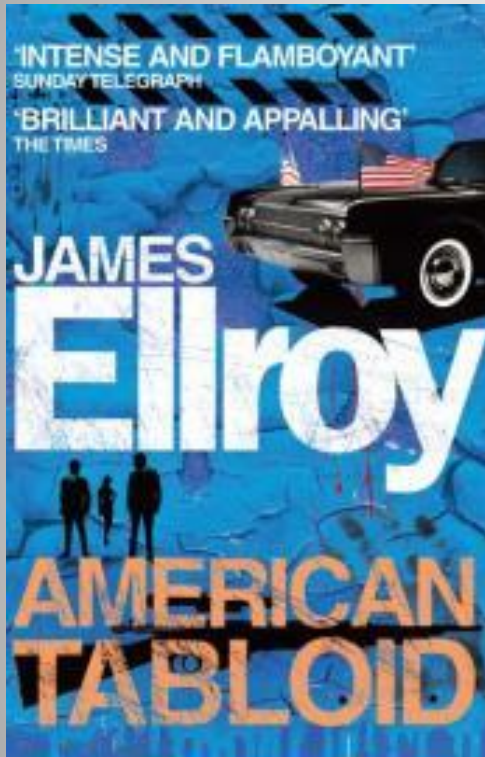
[Harlequeen on flickr]

The basics

- variety
- choice
- ease
- pace
- encouragement
- role models

- NO tests or exercises

The teacher as reader



(role models)

Make reading a topic of conversation

- weave it into your classroom activities
e.g. in a speaking class

(encouragement)



[eltpics on flickr]

make reading a topic of conversation

- weave it into your classroom activities
- take your book/s into class
- talk about reading – and not reading
- talk about reading in L1 ... and L2
- talk about listening to music & reading lyrics
- talk about watching videos & reading subtitles

(encouragement)



[grodt1987 on flickr]

peers as role models ... keeping a log book



[MelvinSchlubman on flickr]

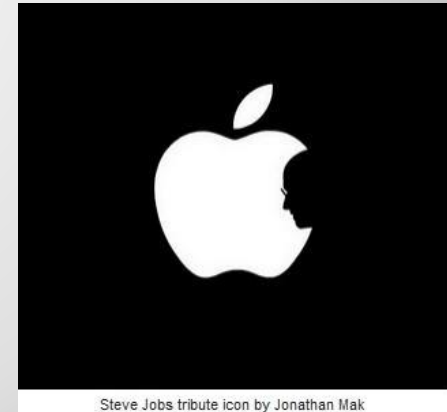
a shift in perspective ...

Extensive reading in the classroom?

- reader response codes

! ? **X** √ ☺ ☹ ! ? **X** √ ☺ ☹ ! ? **X** √ ☺ ☹

- follow-up from discussions, conversations
- extracts
- opening paragraphs
- page 99
- short stories
- DEAR *



decisions, decisions ...

Choice? Variety? Level? Pace?

Plan A: everyone reads the same book

Plan B: everyone reads a different book

What kind of book? graded readers or authentic? original or adapted? early readers? reluctant readers? in print? online?

Students buy a book each?

School library?

Book box/bag?



Ross Elliott on flickr

some classroom activities ...

Before reading:

- book covers
- blurbs
- opening paragraph
- page 99 ...

After reading:

- character profile
- different place and time
- interviews (characters, authors ...)
- role plays ...



[Kyknoord on flickr]

reflections

References and links

Owl Hall <http://owllhall.macmillanreaders.com/welcome/>

Macmillan readers <http://www.macmillanreaders.com/>

Literature collections

<http://www.macmillanreaders.com/resources/literature-collection>

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Tips for using graded readers in class

<http://www.macmillanreaders.com/using-graded-readers-in-class>

A blog post on using reader response codes

<https://cerij.wordpress.com/2011/05/12/reader-response-codes/>

An article by Philip Prowse on the basic principles of extensive reading

<http://nflrc.hawaii.edu/rfl/october2002/discussion/prowse.html>

An article by Alan Maley on the benefits of extensive reading with an extensive bibliography

<http://www.teachingenglish.org.uk/articles/extensive-reading-why-it-good-our-students%E2%80%A6-us>

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THE MACMILLAN ONLINE CONFERENCE 2011

Wednesday 9th:

12.30 - 13.30: CERI JONES: Getting the reading habit

13.45 - 14.45: DAVE SPENCER: How to teach secondary classes (without losing your sanity in the process)

15.00 - 16.00: VAUGHAN JONES: "Class Scribe" and other ways of recycling vocabulary

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