

# Books

## 1 Basic vocabulary

Translate the following words into your language:

- |                          |                         |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. paperback . . . . .   | 5. characters . . . . . |
| 2. novel . . . . .       | 6. chapter . . . . .    |
| 3. fiction . . . . .     | 7. poem . . . . .       |
| 4. non-fiction . . . . . | 8. poetry . . . . .     |

## 2 Kinds of books

1. Put the following into the correct column below:

encyclopedia	atlas	classic
ghost story	textbook	detective story
novel	dictionary	autobiography
biography	thriller	science fiction

fiction

non-fiction

.....	.....
.....	.....
.....	.....
.....	.....
.....	.....
.....	.....

2. In which of the non-fiction books would you:

- look up the meaning of a word?
- look up the height of Niagara Falls?
- find a detailed map of China?

3. Which of the following books would you buy in the situations below?

- a. a cookery book
- a. a travel guide
- a. a children's book
- a. an autobiography

- You don't like fiction. You prefer to read about the life stories of real people, written by the people themselves.
- You are 20 years old and are leaving home to share a flat with some friends. You've never cooked for yourself before.
- You don't know what to buy your seven-year-old nephew for his birthday.
- You are going trekking in Nepal. You've never been there before.

*Most biographies and reference books are hardbacks but most novels are paperbacks.*

## 3 Writers

Match the writers with what they write:

- |                |                                  |
|----------------|----------------------------------|
| 1. Authors     | a. write poetry.                 |
| 2. Novelists   | b. write about famous people.    |
| 3. Poets       | c. write any kind of book.       |
| 4. Playwrights | d. write articles in newspapers. |
| 5. Journalists | e. write fiction.                |
| 6. Biographers | f. write plays.                  |

## 4 Novels

Mark each sentence P – if it expresses a positive idea – or N for a negative idea. The phrases in green will help you decide.

- I've just finished a Stephen King novel. I couldn't put it down.
- I just couldn't relate to any of the characters.
- It's no masterpiece but it's very readable.
- The main characters don't really develop and some of the minor characters are very one-dimensional.
- The first few chapters were such heavy going that I gave up.
- It's such a moving story. I couldn't stop thinking about it.
- It's a very simple story but there's no real plot. Nobody seems to have a reason for doing what they do.

*Novels are fictional stories invented by the writer although some are based on true stories.*

*A classic is a famous book which everyone agrees will last, for example, 'Pride and Prejudice' or 'The Three Musketeers'.*

*What kind of novels do you like?*

## 5 Poetry

Use these words to complete the following:

poems poetry poet verses recite

When we did . . . . . at school, we had to learn whole . . . . . by heart and then . . . . . them for the whole class. Philip Larkin was my favourite . . . . . I remember the longest poem I had to learn had over 20 . . . . . !