

BETTY SONG [Chinese]

There is nothing I like more than curling up with a good book. I like all kinds of literature—novels, general fiction, short stories . . . I also read a lot of books written by (1) _____, translated into Chinese. My favorite author, though, is Chang Ailing. She is a very famous author from China. Her work has inspired women for many (2) _____.

I like to read whenever I have a bit of quiet time—like early in the morning or during lunch hour—and at night when I'm lying in bed. I usually read in a small room next to my living room. It's like a small library with good natural sunlight. I really don't enjoy reading in coffee shops or other public places. I need a quiet space to read.

For me, reading is a spiritual experience that gives me great (3) _____. Television and movies can't do that. I can't understand why anyone doesn't enjoy reading. I can't think of any better way to relax, to forget the pressure of each day.

SILVIO FERRANTE [Spanish]

I really like to keep up with the news. I get the paper delivered on weekends, so that's when I enjoy reading it most. Pretty much from the first to the last page. During the week I enjoy (4) _____ through the newspaper in a café. But the weekend is the best time.

There's nothing like lying in bed with the paper, a good cup of coffee, and some croissants or toast. Or when the weather is nice, sitting in the garden and reading about what's going on in the world. And, well, I have to admit, one of my favorite places to read is in the, um, well, bathroom . . . I can spend a good (5) _____ there reading the paper.

Aside from newspapers, I really enjoy stopping at newsstands and spending about five or ten minutes browsing through magazines. And, of course, I also enjoy going to book shops and checking out the latest novels. Particularly (6) _____. I just can't seem to read enough of those.

MELISSA WHITE

I don't really consider myself to be a big reader because I don't actually read a lot of books. Most of the reading I do is either on the Internet—or in newspapers. I can't start my day without skimming through the newspaper during breakfast, checking out what's going on in local news, or maybe what's going on in business. Mainly I just look for the articles that look interesting, and I save them for later when I get back home from work. Then I like to curl up on the sofa with my newspaper and a good (7) _____.

The truth is I don't have a lot of time for reading books. And I don't have a lot of interest in reading them. Once in a while, I'll read one of the best-sellers, or a good romance novel. But I spend a lot more time surfing the Internet, checking out my (8) _____. That's where I get my information from—and my entertainment. It works for me.