

Social Media for Book Lovers



This week we're looking at two social media sites for those of you who are mad about books.

Bookstagram

We all use Instagram to share cool photos of what we're doing now, right? Well, for people who are into books, there's Bookstagram (you can find it on Instagram). Alexandra started her blog, Twirling Pages, when she was just 16 and she uploads her photos to Instagram. Have a look at her profile to see what she's reading at the moment and where she's reading it. And Faroukh Naseem (theguywiththebook) creates content all about books including photos, book reviews and a blog.

To get started: use your phone to take pictures of your books. Then post your favourite to a bookstagram competition and wait for the 'likes'!

BookTube

Among the millions of YouTube subscribers, there's a smaller group of book fans who use their own BookTube channels to share book reviews, recommendations and news. One of the most

popular types of videos are 'haul' videos where the booktuber shows the books they bought on a recent trip to the book shop. Booktuber Monica Kim has an 'unhauling' video on her channel where she talks about how she threw away 90% of her books.

To get started: look for a booktuber who shares your interests. And remember a Book Lion is someone who likes books, 'DNF' means 'did not finish', and a 'shelfie' is a selfie with your bookshelf!



Someone who's into reading is called a 'bookworm'. If they're also mad about collecting books, they're a 'bibliophile'. And if you enjoy smelling books, 'bibliosmia' describes the smell of a good book!

1. What can you learn about Alexandra on her bookstagram?

2. What kind of things does Faroukh Naseem create?

3. What sort of camera do you need to start your own bookstagram?

4. What types of videos can you find on BookTube?

5. What's the difference between a "haul" and an "unhauling" video?

6. What's a shelfie?

Festival de Jerez:

a flamenco heaven

by Dan Philips

Every year the Spanish city of Jerez puts on a festival of flamenco dance. This year's festival begins tomorrow and lasts for two wonderful weeks. For me, and flamenco fans around the world, ¹it's the highlight of the year. People from over 30 different countries will turn up here, all crazy about flamenco.



Every day, there are performances of flamenco. ²Some take place in the beautiful Villamarta Theatre, but most happen in the small flamenco clubs all around Jerez, known as *peñas*. And if you're keen to take it up yourself, the greatest flamenco teachers from around the world are going to give classes.

The festival begins on 23rd February and ends on 10th March. Don't miss out!

SOME HISTORY

Flamenco is typically Spanish, but it has a long international history. Over five centuries ago, the Roma came to Europe from India and brought their traditional music. ³Their traditions mixed with local traditions from the south of Spain and ⁴those of Jewish and North African immigrants, and the result was flamenco.

The 19th century was the 'golden age' of flamenco. The first flamenco schools opened ⁵then, in Seville, Cadiz and Jerez. Performers began to use guitars, and dance became more important. Flamenco became the art we know today.



A GUIDE FOR BEGINNERS

Instruments: The two most important of ⁶these are the guitar and the castanets, but you might also see performances with trumpets and violins or even a whole orchestra.

Songs: People often think that flamenco is only dancing. In fact, the songs, called *cante*, are the real heart of it. The words are often by Spain's most famous poets.

Dance: *Zapateado* is the special dance that flamenco dancers do. They stamp their feet and click their castanets in fast, complicated rhythms. Nobody nods off during a flamenco concert!

Jaleo: This is the hand-clapping and shouting that make flamenco so exciting. The clapping, called *palmas*, is much more difficult to do than it looks. But anyone can join in the shouting, so don't be shy!

1. Who goes to the Festival at Jerez?

2. What can you do at the festival?

3. How long does the festival last?

4. What traditions does flamenco come from?

5. When did flamenco performers start using guitars?

6. What mistake do people often make about flamenco?

7. What part of a flamenco performance can the audience take part in?
