

BOOKS AND LITERATURE B1

Main theme addressed	In this lesson, you will learn about books and literature.
Key Goals	<p>Here is an outline of what you will learn today:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Types of books and literature 2. How to characterise a book 3. Professions related to literature

1. Types of books and literature

There are two major categories of literature: **fiction** and **non-fiction**.

Fiction books include stories about **imaginary** events and people.

Non-fiction books give facts about **real** stories, events and people.

The adjective of fiction is **fictional**, which we can use to describe a character, place or event in a book, play or film.

For example:

'Neverland' is a fictional place in the story of Peter Pan.

See a detailed list of the different types of adjectives for fiction and non-fiction books, in the following tables.

- **Fiction:**

action and adventure	A book whose main storyline involves risk, exciting action sequences and physical danger.
alternate history	Books about stories in which one or more historical events occur differently.
anthology	A combination of short stories by different authors, featuring unrelated characters and settings.
children's literature	Fiction books appropriate for children.
comic book	A book written with comic strips. It tells the story with images and the dialogues are presented in bubbles.
crime	Books with fiction stories about crimes, investigations, criminals and their motives.
drama	Story which involves characters in conflict at a crucial moment in their lives.
fairy tale	Story (often for children) which involves characters such as elves, goblins, wizards and fairies.
fantasy	Books with a plot characterised by unrealistic settings, magic, or mythical beings and supernatural forms.
young adult	Fiction books written for teenagers and readers from 12 to 18 years old.
historical fiction	Fiction books about stories that take place in Historical settings.

mystery	Fiction books that involve a mysterious death or a crime to be solved.
picture book	Books that include only pictures or very little text in combination with pictures.
poetry	Fiction books written in a form of narrative poetry rather than prose.
romance	Fiction book about a romantic story where the characters fall in love.
thriller	Fiction story book with a villain-driven plot. The story often involves a lot of suspense and anxiety.
science-fiction	Books about the science and technology of the future.
suspense	Story book that emphasises in the anticipation of the outcome of a plot to an uncertainty, puzzle or mystery.

- **Non-fiction:**

art	A book that contents creation of Artwork and concept.
biography	A book where the writer tells someone else's life.
autobiography	A book where the writer tells about their own life.
book review	A written critic of a literary work.
cookbook	A book with recipes or advice on cooking.
diary	A book that consists of a record of events, personal events or observations of the daily life.
dictionary	A book that includes a list of words in alphabetic order, with their definitions, usage, etymologies, pronunciations, and sometimes translation.
encyclopaedia	A book with general knowledge on a range of topics.
guide	A book of information to help visitors or tourists learn about new places.
history	A book that describes historical facts and stories.
journal	A magazine or newspaper that focuses on a specific topic such as science.
memoir	A book with a collection of memories about public and private events that took place in a person's life.
religion, spirituality	Books that describe religious or spiritual facts.
textbook	Book on a specific subject that aims to teach somth.

Exercise:

Fill in the following sentences with the words you learnt:

1. Our school publishes a _____ every week, with all the latest news and educational events happening in the city and neighbourhood.
2. This is a _____ book about what life will be in the year 3450! It describes an imaginary and fantastic world.
3. This used to be my favourite _____ fiction book when I was 16 years old. I would not recommend it for a gift to your parents.
4. We were lucky when we visited Rome because we had a very useful and updated travel _____ to see the city.

Answers:

1. journal
2. science-fiction
3. young adult
4. guide

2. How to characterize a book

Words and expressions you can use to characterise a book.

Here is a list of words and expressions to describe a book.

You will see their definition and one example.

Entertaining: to be pleasant and joyful.

Example:

This book is not my favorite, but the story is **entertaining**.

Captivating: something that can attract and hold interest.

Example:

This book's story was so **captivating** that I finished reading it in one night!

Boring: something that is not interesting.

Example:

This book's plot is **boring** because nothing interesting happens.

Predictable: something you can guess very easily.

Example:

This book has a very **predictable** end; you can guess it from the first few pages.

Hilarious: to be extremely funny.

Example:

The main character of this book tells **hilarious** jokes.

Action-packed: something that is full of action.

Example:

I normally prefer reading science-fiction books that are **action-packed**.

Exercise:

Fill in the following sentences with the words you just learnt.

1. This book could be less _____ if there were more surprises and changes in the story.
2. I enjoy reading books with a surprising ending rather than a _____ one.
3. I have read this book three times and it is still making me laugh; it is _____!
4. Sometimes, children's books can also be _____ for the parents.

Answers:

1. boring
2. predictable
3. hilarious
4. entertaining

3. Professions related to literature

There are many different jobs related to literature!

Look at the following list of jobs and their definitions:

JOB	DEFINITION
an author	A person who writes books.
a novelist	The author of one or several novel(s).
a playwright	A person who writes plays for the theatre.
a biographer	A person who writes about someone else's life.
a publisher	A person who publishes books.
a journalist	A person who writes articles for newspapers.
a columnist	A person who writes short articles for a newspaper on a regular basis.
a screenwriter	A person who writes the scenario of a film or a movie.

Exercise:

Fill in the following sentences with the words you just learnt.

1. The _____ has very happy with the sales of the book because his publishing house made a lot of money.
2. He works as a _____ for a big journal and writes a short article every week.
3. The _____ of this book uses very complicated words.
4. Walter Isaacson is a _____ who has written the best-selling biographies of Steve Jobs, Benjamin Franklin and Albert Einstein.

Answers:

1. publisher
2. columnist
3. author
4. biographer

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https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zpb-_BtzGtK

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oarGRayak5o>