12   Hooked on books

Adjectives to describe books / stories

boring	The plot was pretty boring.	langweilig
brilliant	He wrote a brilliant ending!	hervorragend, großartig, brillant genial
confusing	Some of the characters were confusing.	verwirrend, irritierend
remarkable	The author's attention to detail was remarkable.	bemerkenswert, außergewöhnlich
amazing	I've read a lot of amazing novels.	erstaunlich, verblüffend, unglaublich
fantastic	Kim writes fantastic poems about New York City.	toll, fantastisch
fascinating	It's fascinating to read adventure stories.	spannend, fesselnd, faszinierend
extraordinary	My favourite author has the extraordinary ability to make you feel like you're living in the novel.	außergewöhnlich, besonders
enjoyable	The last biography I read was an enjoyable read.	angenehm, erfreulich, amüsant
disappointing	After reading the book, the movie was just disappointing.	enttäuschend
tasteless	His comment about Samantha's skirt was rather tasteless.	geschmacklos
overwhelming	Being in the middle of a crowd can be overwhelming.	überwältigend, übermächtig
superb	Her speech was superb!	hervorragend, prächtig, herrlich
outstanding	Bridget has done outstanding work in the literary world.	hervorragend, großartig
sad	Mark thought the short story was really sad.	traurig
hilarious	Ivin's essays are hilarious.	urkomisch, sehr lustig
humorous	Karlo always knows how to handle difficult topics in a humorous way.	humorvoll, witzig, lustig
inspiring	Her story is inspiring.	anregend, inspirierend
crazy	The main character is truly crazy.	verrückt
thrilling	Seeing the world through new eyes can be thrilling.	spannend, aufregend
romantic	The look in his eyes was so romantic, I almost fell over.	romantisch
adventurous	I enjoy reading about adventurous people.	abenteuerlustig
terrifying	Descriptions of the war zone were terrifying to read.	erschreckend, furchterregend
funny	Funny poems are good for little kids.	lustig, komisch, witzig
weird	The best stories are often a little bit weird.	sonderbar, schräg, bizarr
controversial	This novel has a very controversial plot – people either love it or hate it.	umstritten, widersprüchlich, brisant
frightening	Thunderstorms can be frightening when you're all alone.	beängstigend, furchterregend

entertaining	Essays about politics should be entertaining; otherwise I don't want to read them.	unterhaltsam
stunning	She ended her poem with a stunning description of a marble statue.	atemberaubend, umwerfend, überwältigend, fantastisch
inappropriate	Some stories are inappropriate for children.	unangemessen, unpassend, ungeeignet
heartwarming	The story of a man finding his lost dog was really heartwarming.	herzerwärmend
disturbing	Many crime novels contain disturbing details.	(ver)störend, beunruhigend

Talking about why teenagers read

to relate to one's own background	Jennifer relates to her own background when she reads stories about the Caribbean.	mit der eigenen Herkunft identifizieren
to force students to read books at school	Students are sometimes forced to read books at school.	Schüler/innen zwingen, in der Schule Bücher zu lesen
to broaden one's mind	Listening to other people's stories broadens one's mind.	den geistigen Horizont erweitern
to touch a reader's heart	Even a small detail can touch a reader's heart.	das Herz eines Lesers/einer Leserin berühren
to convey the picture of a young person growing up in poverty	The main character conveys the picture of a young person growing up in poverty.	das Bild eines jungen Menschen vermitteln, der in Armut aufwächst
to identify with the main character of a book	I usually identify with the main character of a book I'm reading.	sich mit der Hauptfigur eines Buches identifizieren
to improve one's reading and language skills	Novels improve one's reading and language skills.	Lesekompetenz und Sprachkenntnisse verbessern
to get knowledge about different cultures	Students get knowledge about different cultures by reading books by international authors.	Wissen über andere Kulturen erlangen
to enjoy one's free time	Reading is a great way to enjoy one's free time.	die Freizeit genießen

Book genres

detective story	My brother can't read enough detective stories; he loves them!	Kriminalroman, Detektivgeschichte
adventure story	June will write her own adventure story someday.	Abenteuerroman, Abenteuergeschichte
love story	Love stories can be either very wonderful or very cliché.	Liebensroman, Liebesgeschichte
thriller	The last time I read a thriller, I didn't sleep for three days.	Kriminalroman, Thriller
non-fiction	Non-fiction books are useful but not always the most interesting.	Sachbuchliteratur
science fiction	Science fiction makes me worried about the future.	Science-Fiction
novel	His favourite novel is always the one he's currently reading!	Roman
dictionary	Our class uses a dictionary in every English class.	Wörterbuch
autobiography	Who knows whether Gunnar will ever write an autobiography.	Autobiografie
fairy tale	Theo read a fairy tale to his niece.	Märchen
play	We went to the theatre to see the new play.	Theaterstück, Schauspiel

poem	A poem can make you feel a lot of different emotions at the same time.	Gedicht
short story	John's favourite literary journal published a wonderful short story last month.	Kurzgeschichte, kurze Erzählung

The global problem of illiteracy

teaching policy	Teaching policy is different in almost every individual country.	Unterrichtskonzept, Bildungskonzept
to get left behind	No student wants to get left behind.	zurückgelassen / abgehängt werden
to live in poverty	Kassandra lived in poverty until she was seventeen.	in Armut leben
to affect someone	Zeb's childhood affected him deeply.	jemanden beeinträchtigen / beeinflussen
to estimate	I would estimate that more people don't know how to read than we think.	schätzen, einschätzen
mother tongue	Reading in one's mother tongue is a good place to start.	Muttersprache
to encourage someone / something	Teachers should encourage students / good behaviour in the classroom.	jemanden ermutigen / etwas fördern
to enrol someone in school	Jacqueline enrolled her daughter in school.	jemanden in der Schule anmelden / einschreiben
to engage in something	Harry engaged in many extra-curricular activities during his school career.	sich mit etwas eingehend beschäftigen, sich an etwas beteiligen, sich engagieren
inclusion of disadvantaged groups	Social programmes focus on the inclusion of disadvantaged groups.	Einbeziehung / Einbindung benachteiligter Gruppen
to be bilingual	It's helpful to be bilingual.	zweisprachig sein
to eradicate illiteracy	Many teachers in poverty-stricken areas make it their goal to eradicate illiteracy.	Analphabetismus beseitigen / ausrotten

Talking about how to improve students' literacy skills

to read as much as possible in class	Keara reads as much as possible in class.	so viel wie möglich lesen im Unterricht
to do peer writing activities	Every week, we do a lot of peer writing activities.	Schreibaktivitäten in Gruppenarbeit ausführen
to give proper feedback	Mentors must give students proper feedback so that they can improve.	angemessenes Feedback geben
to provide interesting reading materials for students	Teachers provide interesting reading material for students depending on their level.	interessantes Lesematerial für die Schüler/innen bereitstellen
to be motivating and encouraging	My form teacher is always motivating and encouraging.	motivierend und ermutigend sein
to give visual clues	Everyone lip-reads a little bit; looking at someone's face to get visual clues.	visuelle Hinweise / Anhaltspunkte geben
to provide useful language	Ms Greenwood provides useful language when students don't know how to phrase something.	nützliche Sprache / Phrasen zur Verfügung stellen
to invite guest readers into the classroom	They invite guest readers into the classroom every year.	Gastleser/innen ins Klassenzimmer einladen

to point out the benefits of good reading and writing skills	In a recent *TED*-talk, the benefits of good reading and writing skills were pointed out.	die Vorteile von guten Lese- und Schreibfertigkeiten hervorheben
to have a school / class library	Mustafa is thankful that the Higher Technical College has a school / class library.	eine Schul-/Klassenbibliothek haben

Boosting your language skills in and outside the classroom

to listen to English songs / interviews	We listen to English songs / interviews to improve our vocabulary.	englische Lieder / Interviews anhören
to watch English movies / TV series	I often watch English movies / TV series in my free time.	englische Filme / Serien anschauen
to read English books	Ying reads English books every time she goes on vacation.	englische Bücher lesen
to always speak English in the English lesson	I find it helpful to always speak English in the English lesson.	im Englischunterricht immer Englisch sprechen
to skype with English friends / relatives	Over the holidays, my family skypes with English friends / relatives.	mit englischen Freunden/Freundinnen / Verwandten skypen
to download free podcasts from native speakers	Recently, Jan downloaded free podcasts about art from native speakers.	kostenlose Podcasts von Muttersprachlern/Muttersprachlerinnen herunterladen
to not start preparing for a test on the day before	Hannah's mother told her to not start preparing for a test on the day before.	nicht erst am Vortag mit der Vorbereitung auf einen Test beginnen
to not translate into English from one's mother tongue	Otto didn't translate into English from his mother tongue because he knew that would make it harder to avoid mistakes.	nicht aus der Muttersprache ins Englische übersetzen
to not be afraid of making mistakes	Elisa is not afraid of making mistakes.	keine Angst vor Fehlern haben
to practise every day	Ryan practises new skills every day.	jeden Tag üben
to create a comfortable learning environment	Teachers should create a comfortable learning environment.	eine angenehme Lernumgebung schaffen
to try to think in English	Marjorie tries to think in English when she goes for a walk.	versuchen, auf Englisch zu denken
to start an English online blog	He started an English online blog for a project last year.	einen englischen Online-Blog starten
to stay positive	Hugh stays positive even though he doesn't get everything right.	positiv bleiben / denken
to write new words on cue cards	If you write new words on cue cards, it will help you study better.	neue Wörter auf Lernkarten / Karteikärtchen schreiben
to speak English with a friend / relative	It will help you a great deal to speak English with a friend / relative.	Englisch mit einem Freund/einer Freundin / einem/einer Verwandten sprechen
to read online newspaper articles	Brad reads online newspaper articles about scientific discoveries.	Online-Zeitungsartikel lesen
to use English chatrooms and forums	If you aren't sure about the correct word for something, use English chatrooms and forums.	englische Chatrooms und Plattformen nutzen

Talking about why reading matters

to be more imaginative	I am definitely more imaginative after I've finished reading a book.	mehr Vorstellungskraft besitzen
to improve one's learning capacity	Regularly reading novels improves one's learning capacity.	die eigene Lernfähigkeit / Lernkapazität verbessern
to be sceptical	Leonie is sceptical about the usefulness of online resources.	skeptisch sein

to see something from another person's perspective	Try to see this issue from Gerhard's perspective.	etwas aus dem Blickwinkel einer anderen Person betrachten
to develop more understanding for someone / something	Valerie developed more understanding for poverty-stricken families. / for the difficulty of running a business after the pandemic.	mehr Verständnis für jemanden / etwas entwickeln
to be more sensitive	Rob is more sensitive now that he's grown more mature.	sensibler sein
to contribute to something	Seungwoo wanted to contribute to something bigger than himself.	einen Beitrag zu etwas leisten
to sympathise with someone	I really sympathise with her; she lost everything in the flood.	mitfühlen mit jemandem, mitempfinden
to empathise with someone	I empathise deeply with the main character; we react exactly the same in emotional situations.	sich in jemanden hineinversetzen, sich in jemanden einfühlen, mit jemandem mitfühlen