Extensive Reading

What is Extensive Reading?

• You learn English by reading easy books.
• You choose what to read.
• You read for fun. If you do not like a book, stop reading and choose another book.

Why do Extensive Reading?

• You will get better at reading. The more you practice reading, the easier it is to read.
• Your vocabulary will get bigger. Reading words again and again will help you recognize them, without using flashcards or a dictionary.
• Your writing will get better. Reading will help you learn how sentences are written in English.

Where do you find books to read?

The Thompson Library has books for English Language Program students.
• The collection has its own library website: https://libguides.umflint.edu/extensive-reading
• You can search the collection on the website by typing “ELP 1” into the search box.
• It is on the third floor of the library.
• You can check out a book for 3 weeks.
• You need your M-Card to check out books.

What kind of books does the library have?

• Fiction: stories that are not true
• Non-fiction: stories that are true
• Biography: the true story of a person’s life
• Graded readers: stories written for English students
• Read-along: a book that comes with a CD of a person reading the book; you can read and then listen, listen and then read, or try to read and listen at the same time
Rules of Extensive Reading*

1. Read for fun.

2. You choose what to read.

3. Read easy books.

   Red Level is for Reading and Writing 1 and 2 classes.

   G books are very easy. F books are easy. E books are less easy.

   Use the Five Finger Rule to help pick a book.

4. Read different books. Read fiction and nonfiction books.

5. Read many books. Try to read one book a week. Many of the books are short.

6. Do not use a dictionary when reading.

7. Read to understand the story, not every word.

8. Read on your own.

*Rules adapted from Day and Bamford’s “Top Ten Principles for Teaching Extensive Reading,” http://nflrc.hawaii.edu/rfl/October2002/day/day.html