

# Reading and Writing Connections

---

Shari Jones

Lead Secondary I-Coach/Humanities

# Why Kids Need To Read

---

“Reading books is the only out-of-school activity for 16-year-olds that is linked to getting a managerial or professional job later in life.”

- University of Oxford, 2011



## Why Can't I Skip My 20 Minutes of Reading Tonight?

Student "A"  
reads **20 minutes**  
each day

3600 minutes in  
a school year

**1,800,000 words**



*90<sup>th</sup> percentile*

Student "B"  
reads **5 minutes**  
each day

900 minutes in  
a school year

**282,000 words**



*50<sup>th</sup> percentile*

Student "C"  
reads **1 minute**  
each day

180 minutes in  
a school year

**8,000 words**



*10<sup>th</sup> percentile*

By the end of 6<sup>th</sup> grade Student "A" will have read the equivalent of 60 whole school days. Student "B" will have read only 12 school days. Which student would you expect to have a better vocabulary? Which student would you expect to be more successful in school...and in life?

(Nagy & Herman, 1987)

# What makes a reader keep reading...

---

- The book meets the reader's expectation
- The reader asks questions that drive the reading forward to find the answers
- The reader makes predictions and keeps reading to see if they are correct
- The reader has an autobiographical connection – they connect to the character and/or situations
- The reader makes a connection to the information (informational text)
- The information in the text sparks the readers curiosity
- The reader is caught up in the events the author has presented



# What makes a reader stop reading...

---

- Too many unfamiliar words which the reader must struggle through
- Text plays with time or has multiple plotlines which the reader has limited experience with managing
- Limited familiarity with genre
- Text is too easy which causes boredom
- Reading is “word calling” and not making meaning
- Reader is not generating questions/predictions/connections/mental images to drive reading forward

# What makes a reader stop reading...

---

- The text is too character-driven and the reader prefers plot-driven texts
- The reader's confusion does not generate questions but instead decides text is not good
- The text is not the reader's choice
- The setting is in the past and the reader does not know how to connect to the characters and situations
- The beginning of the book is slow which does not hook the reader
- The paragraphs – or the book itself- are too long
- The reader does not understand the author's purpose

# Reading At Home, What it Looks Like

---

- Comfortable
- Well Lit
- Away from Distractions



# How to Talk About Books

*Even ones you have not read*

---

It looks like having a conversation with your child. Here are some talking points to help get started...

- Tell me about this book.
- Why did you pick this book?
- What is your favorite part? Why?
- Is this book more about people? Or is it more about action?
- What have you learned from this book?
- Would you recommend it to someone else? Why? Why not?



# Questions

---

- Nonfiction
  - What did you already know about the topic of this book/text/article?
  - What made you decide to read a book/text/article on that topic since you already had some knowledge about it?
  - What about his particular book/text/article made you choose it from all the other books/texts/articles in that section?
  - What did you think you would learn from this book/texts/articles to add to what you already know?

# Modes for Responding to Reading

---

- Journal
- Literary Letter
- Texting
- Tweeting
- Table Talk
- Neighborhood Book Clubs/
- Neighborhood Book Swaps



# Characteristics to Notice with Nonfiction

*It is all about the purpose...as a reader, as a writer*

- 
- Biographies have a narrative structure but have a different purpose – to show how events in a real person's life shaped his/her future
  - Text features (ex. Bolded print, graphics, photographs, etc.) are intentional and have an important function
  - Information in a nonfiction book is organized according to the author's purpose.
  - Chapter titles, headings and subheadings in nonfiction texts are there to guide the readers to the type of information provided

# Characteristics to Notice with Stories (Fiction)

*It is all about the purpose...as a reader, as a writer*

---

- Contains many short paragraphs because it includes conversations
- Often uses only a person's first name
- Relies mostly on words to give information
- Organizes the information in time sequence – utilizes a story structure including a setting, conflict and resolution.
- Limited text features (ex. Bold-faced words)
- Utilizes italics to provide insight with a character



# Texts: Diet

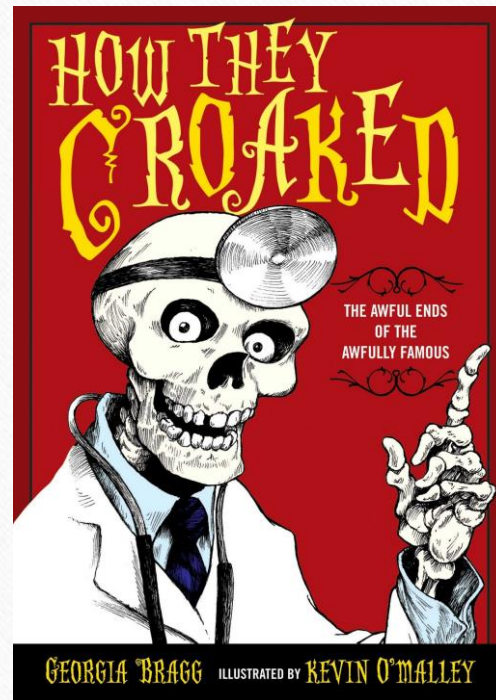
---

- Nonfiction
- Fiction
- Mediums: Magazines, Graphics, Chapter Books, Short Stories, Recorded Books

# How They Croaked

by Georgia Bragg

---

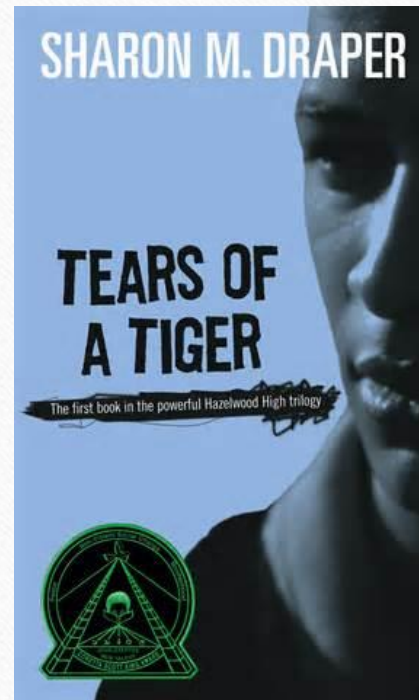




# Tears of A Tiger

by Sharon Draper

---

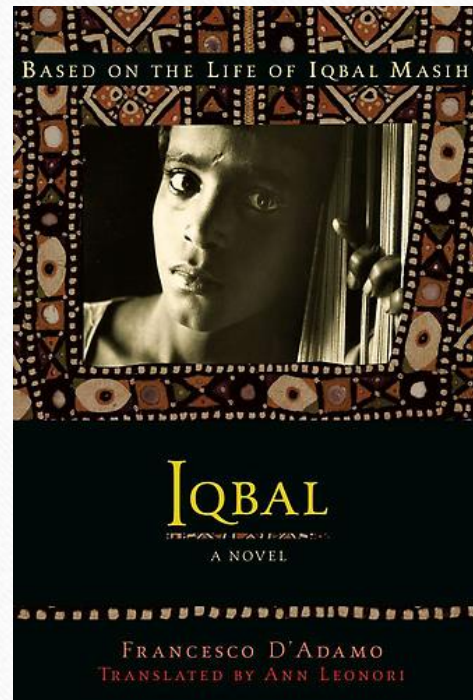


# Iqbal

by

## Francesco D'Adamo

---





# Thirteen Reasons Why

by Jay Asher

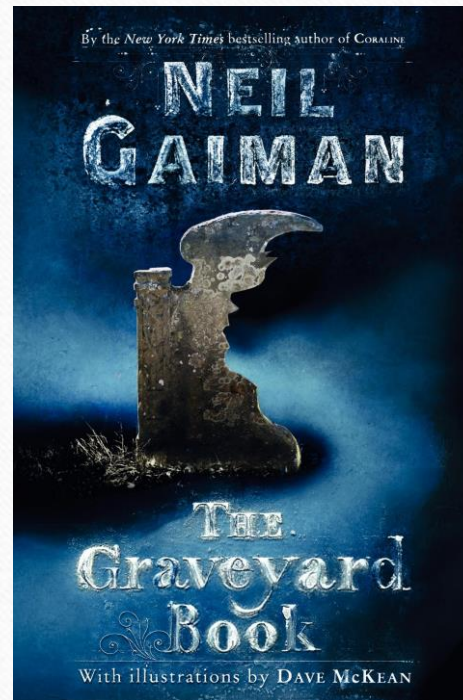
---



# The Graveyard Book

by Neil Gaiman

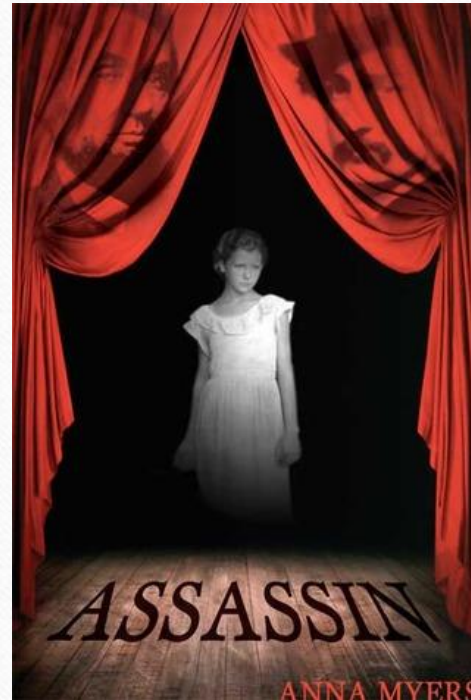
---





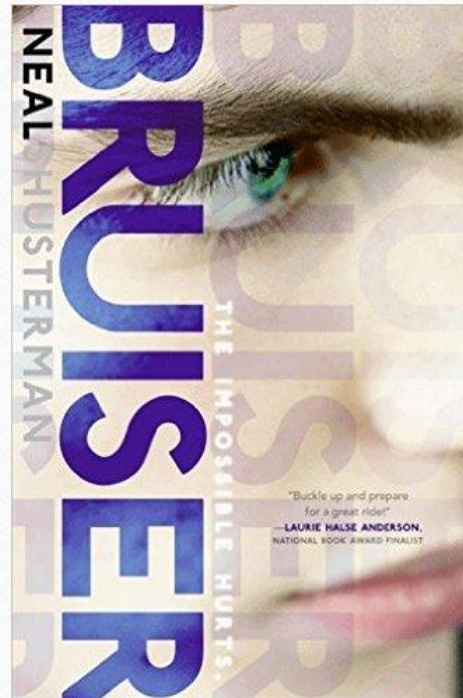
# Assassin by Anna Myers

---



# Bruiser by Neal Shusterman

---

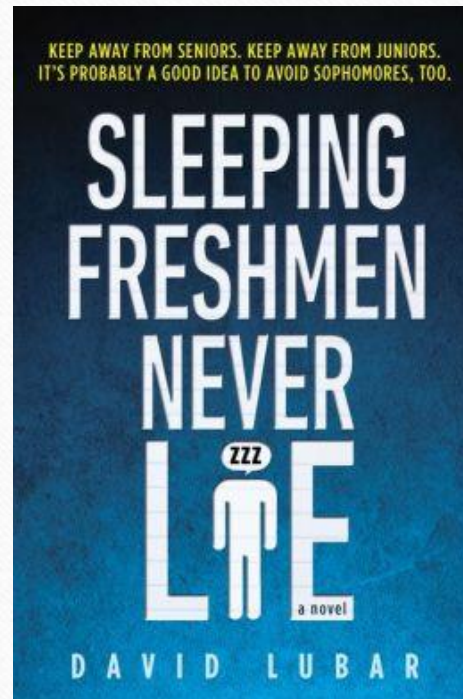




# Sleeping Freshman Never Lie

by David Lubar

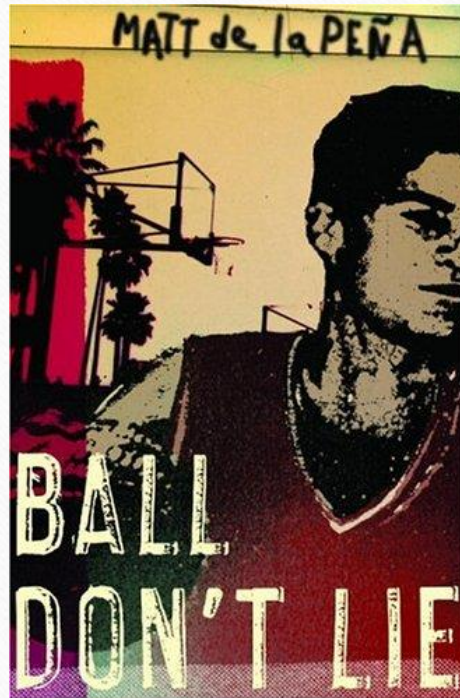
---



# Ball Don't Lie

by Matthew De La Peña

---





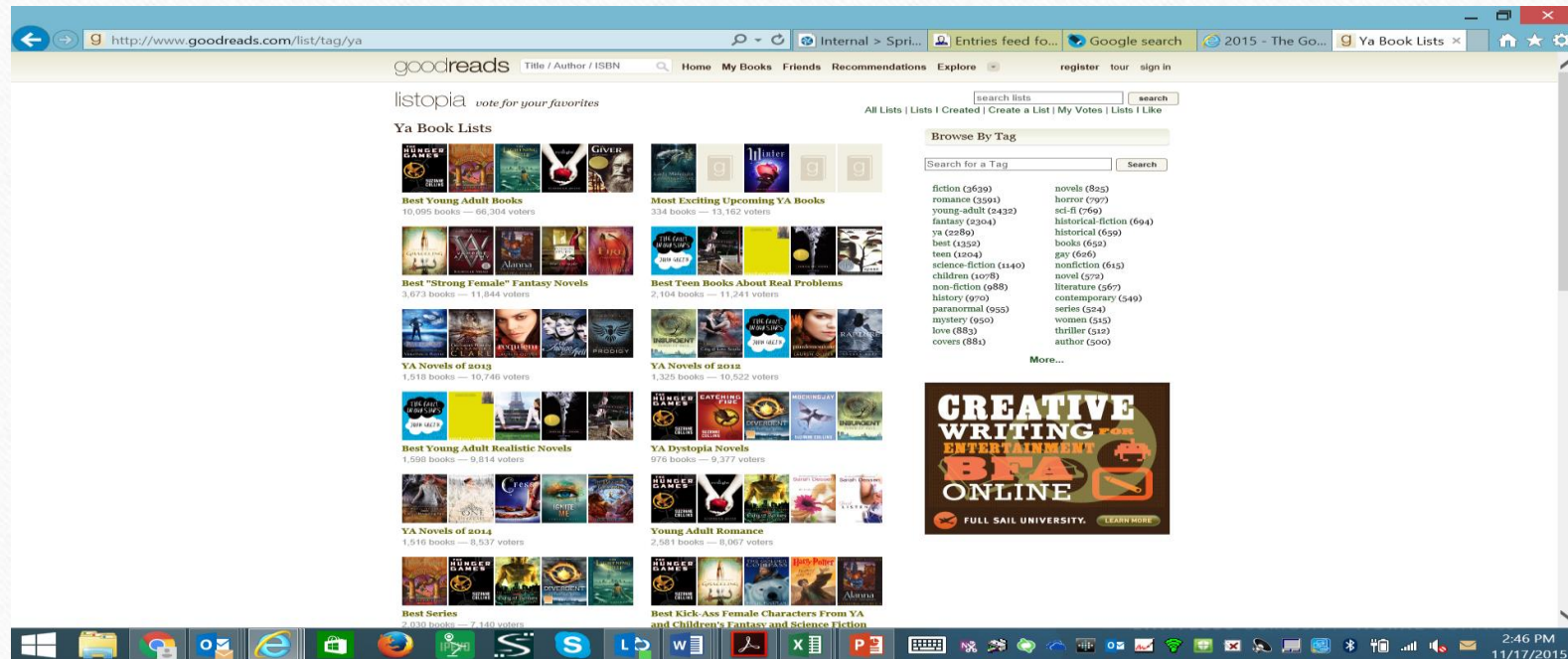
# Great Authors

---

- Sharon Draper
- Sharon Flake
- Neal Shusterman
- John Green
- Chris Crutcher (Older YA)
- Avi
- Jerry Spinelli
- Rodman Philbrick
- Gail Giles

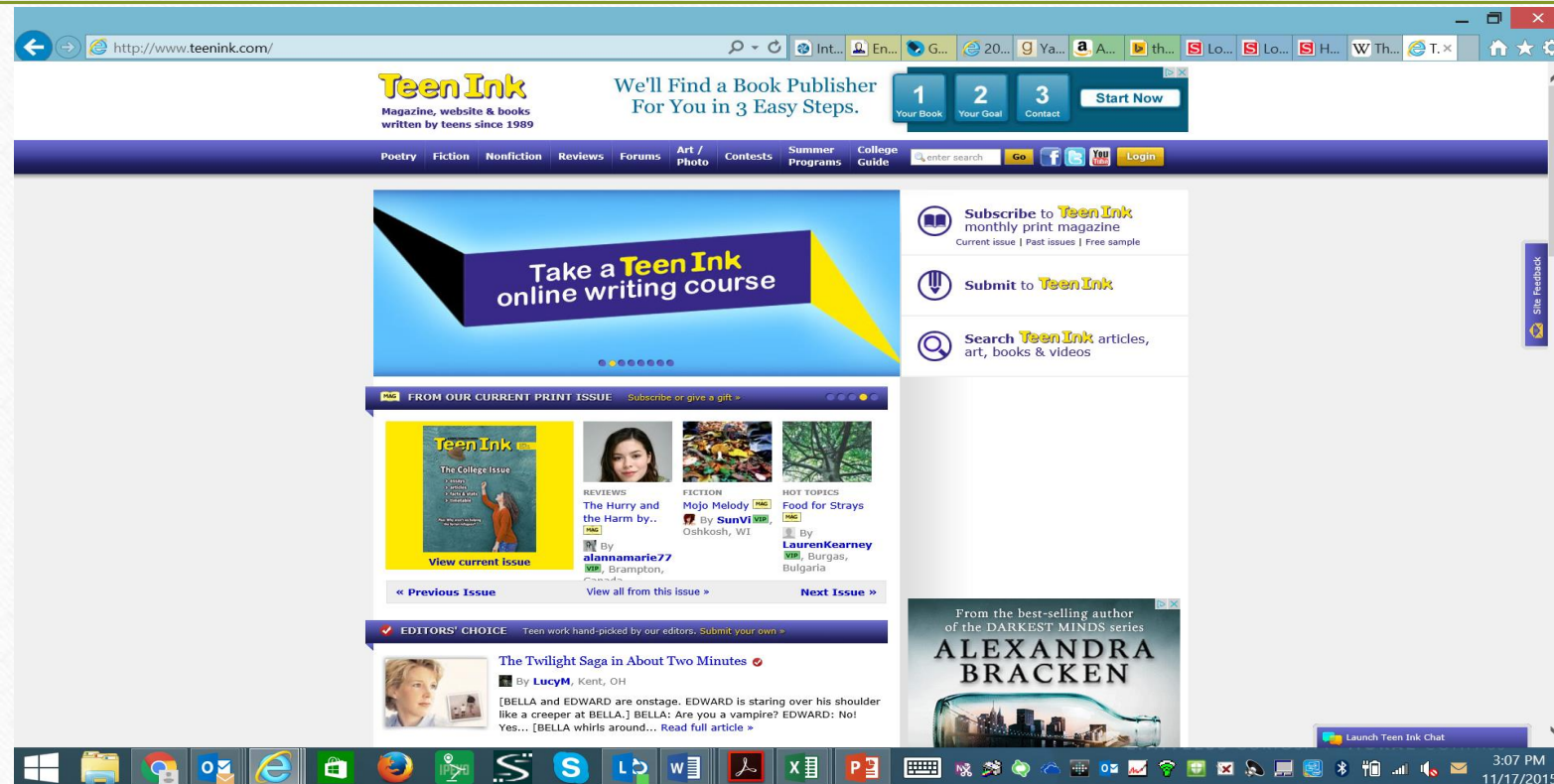
# A Great Place to Search

- <http://www.goodreads.com/list/tag/ya>





# Teen Ink written by Teens



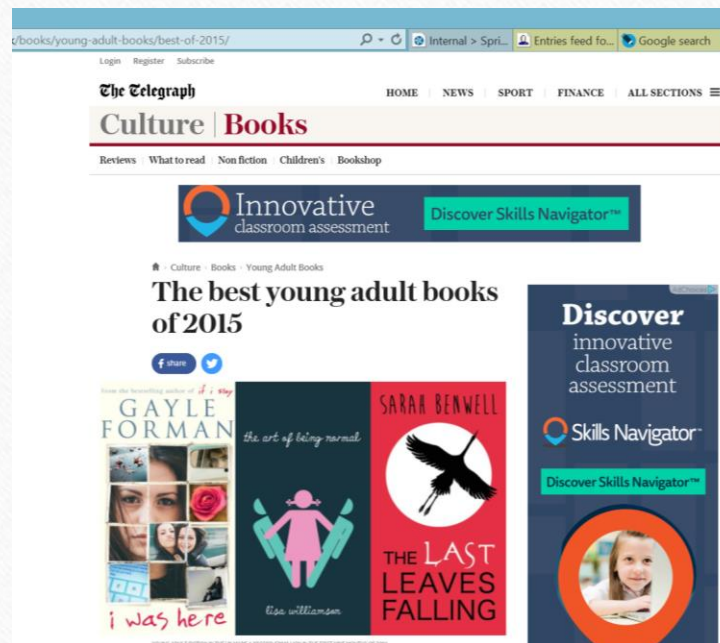
# NY Times Upfront From Scholastic





# Another Site

- <http://www.telegraph.co.uk/books/young-adult-books/best-of-2015/>



# One More...

- <http://www.teenreads.com/>





# Questions After Tonight?

---

[sharon.jones@springbranchisd.com](mailto:sharon.jones@springbranchisd.com)