Students' tips to enjoy reading a novel in English

1. Le 25 novembre 2010, 18:09 par Victoria

   I think that if you want to enjoy a novel, you mustn't stop your reading on every word you don't understand. It would be long for you, and really boring! Try to understand the global meaning of the sentences.

2. Le 25 novembre 2010, 18:17 par Agathe

   Well, I think you must understand the meaning of a sentence so as to enjoy reading an English novel. Indeed, you are not obliged to understand all the words!
   And you, what sort of advice could you give us in order to make it fun? :-)

3. Le 25 novembre 2010, 18:50 par Guillaume

   Two pieces of advice :

   - I think that to enjoy a book in English we should know a lot of vocabulary in order to understand the main meaning of the book.
   - We also have to read the whole book because sometimes the beginning is not very interesting but the ending is most catchy. ;-)

4. Le 26 novembre 2010, 00:19 par Julia

   To have fun reading a novel in general, you can read your book during transport or when you have nothing to do, when you are tired before sleeping. Funny illustrations can make a book funny to read too... You can read the same English book as your friend and discuss, share with him, your ideas and different points of view about the book.

5. Le 26 novembre 2010, 07:43 par Quentin

   To enjoy reading an English novel you have to read it chapter by chapter and read again the things that you don't understand.

6. Le 26 novembre 2010, 16:44 par Alexia

   When you read a book in English, I advise you to take a dictionary with you. But don't look at it for every word that you don't understand ! Check only the words that are the most important and that appear often in the novel :)

7. Le 26 novembre 2010, 17:19 par Agathe

   So I think we all agree to say that to enjoy reading an English novel, you must be quite good at English, and you are not obliged to understand all the words. Just check some words that are important for the text comprehension, and not all the words you don't understand, otherwise it will be boring!!

I agree with Julia when she says that comical illustrations make a book funny to read.
And you, what do you think of this piece of advice?

I also think that we must put ourselves in the characters' shoes and imagine what they are feeling to be into the story and to find it interesting.

8. Le 26 novembre 2010, 17:45 par Marine.

I think you enjoy better to read a book in English when you read it a little every evening, before sleeping.
If the novel is worth reading, you can read again what you have not understood but it can be okay if you don't understand some sentences if you understand the global idea:-)

9. Le 26 novembre 2010, 17:53 par Noé.

To enjoy reading an English novel you must be comfortable with reading in English, to know English expressions, etc ... And if you don't understand something in the story, you can talk about that with your friends or your teacher !

10. Le 26 novembre 2010, 18:14 par Jérôme.

To enjoy reading a novel in English, I think you must be motivated to read a story in another language than your native language. You have to feel at ease in the language but it doesn't matter if you don't understand all the words.

11. Le 26 novembre 2010, 18:53 par Marion.

I find that with our level of English, we should start by reading short novels that we can understand with not too much difficulty. As Victoria and Agathe said, i also think that the words we don't understand shouldn't stop us if we catch the global meaning of the sentences. Finally, i think we must take our time to read an English book : enjoy it :)

12. Le 26 novembre 2010, 19:20 par Maximilien

To enjoy an English novel you have to read slowly to understand and interpret all the vocabulary. Understand each element of the story is important, otherwise the reading is boring.
So always have a dictionary.
13. Le 26 novembre 2010, 19:31 par Sophie

First of all you should be very concentrated and turn off your ipod and phone. In addition you need to make sure you understand the plot and use a dictionary

14. Le 26 novembre 2010, 19:35 par Madeleine.

I agree with all of you. You have to be quite good at English, and you are not obliged to understand all the words.
I also agree with Julia : comical illustrations make a book funny to read, and can facilitate the understanding of the book.
I could add that the book you are reading has to interest you and that you have to let your imagination get involved to enjoy reading in English.

15. Le 26 novembre 2010, 20:05 par Margaux

To enjoy reading an English book, you'd better imagine the story in your head instead of thinking about anything out of the story!

16. Le 26 novembre 2010, 21:22 par Alice.

I agree with all of you; I think you should try to understand the global meaning of the text and look in the dictionary only if it's a recurrent and important word.

I also think you don't have to read an English novel if you are forced to but only by pleasure, the book really has to interest you. :-)

17. Le 26 novembre 2010, 21:37 par Farid.

In my opinion, enjoying reading a book begins by imagining yourself into it for whatever book you're reading (French or English). It's an art which requires creativity in order to make the reader take the hero's place, you have to color every sentence you read.

Furthermore, reading a book must be a pleasure, you don't have to count the number of pages you've read.

Like the others said , you don't have to pay attention to difficult words, it's only a waste of time to find each one (the best would be to understand by the text but it's a little bit hard) , the most important is to understand the global fact, the vocabulary will come naturally...

To finish, reading is a moment of calm where you develop your vocabulary, your imagination. So don't forget to enjoy it...

18. Le 26 novembre 2010, 22:59 par Quentin.

To enjoy reading an English novel you have to read it chapter by chapter and read again the things that you don't understand.