

ESL Extra-Curricular Reading Program: Give Me 20 Summer 2011

For the reading program during the 6-week summer session in 2011, we changed from short tests to book reports. We asked the students to agree to complete 1 book report at the end of each book.

Students needed 3 book reports to qualify for a certificate. This made the focus on the book, its content, and its vocabulary. Book Report forms are available online at <http://giveme20.pbworks.com>. We designed one for beginning level, one for intermediate level, and one for advanced level students.

Students came in to the ESL library after receiving information in their classes. They checked out books and completed a book report for each book (if they wanted a certificate).

Library teachers met with students individually when they were ready to review their book reports. Each completed report was logged onto a spreadsheet and stamped so that students could not recycle them. Library teachers also helped students find appropriate materials and answer general procedural questions.

We had a total of 248 students who signed up. Half of those students actually "participated", meaning that they turned in one or more book reports. A little more than half of the participating students (54%) did at least 3 book reports (several did four and 1 student did 8 reports). Therefore we handed out 67 certificates (Figure 1).

Figure 1: Summer 2011 Give Me 20 Participants

Level	# Signups	# Participants	# Certificated	Percentages
Pre-1	7	4	3	75%
1	42	27	11	41%
2	41	25	17	68%
3	51	23	12	52%
4	49	22	10	45%
5	37	17	10	59%
6	21	7	4	57%
TOTAL	248	125	67	

In comparing the results from the pre and post-surveys, it is most interesting to note the progress made with regard to the amount of reading being accomplished at the beginning of the summer compared to the end of summer (Figure 2: Questions 3, 8, 9, and 10). Also, students gained considerable confidence in enjoying reading, using the ESL library, and in reading (Figure 2: Questions 1, 2, and 5).

Figure 2: GIVE ME 20 Student Survey Summer 2011 Reading Habits		Pre-Survey Agree & Strongly Agree	Post-Survey Agree & Strongly Agree	Percentage Gain
		n = 210	n = 75	
1.	I like reading books in English.	70%	93%	23%
2.	I use the ESL Library at Mt. SAC.	56%	89%	33%
3.	I read something in English every day.	56%	79%	23%
4.	I learn words from reading in English.	82%	88%	6%
5.	I think that I can read a page of English in 5 minutes or less.	49%	64%	15%
6.	I like to guess the meaning of new words.	57%	74%	17%
7.	I like to look in a dictionary for the meaning of new words.	76%	76%	0%
		8 to 10	8 to 10	
8.	How many times each week do you read something in English.	21%	52%	31%
9.	How many pages of English do you read every day?	16%	55%	39%
		20 to 25 or more	20 to 25 or more	
10.	How many minutes do you usually spend reading English every day?	42%	64%	22%
			Yes	
11.	I like meeting with the library teachers.	N/A	91%	N/A
12.	I like this reading program and will do it again.	N/A	93%	N/A