

Willink School
Reading Record



Name:

Class:

*PLATINUM
AWARD*

Platinum Award

To achieve your Platinum award, you will be expected to continue your independent reading but also to undertake some research independently using Wikipedia, the online encyclopaedia. This will take the form of scanning the information presented on screen and completing specific tasks on each type of writing.

Tasks

1. Diary (or Personal Journal)
 2. Autobiography
 3. Biography
 4. Travel Writing
 5. Memoir
 6. Essay
 - ~~7. Reference~~
-

When you have completed all eight tasks, you should give your completed handbook to your teacher to receive your Platinum Certificate.



Diary (Personal Journal)

Probably one of the most famous diaries of all times is "The Diary of Anne Frank", the personal journal kept by a young Dutch Jew during World War II but there are lots of others. Fewer of you will have heard of "The Diary of Peter Ginz" a Jewish boy in Prague who was sent to a concentration camp in 1942. Samuel Pepys kept a diary at the end of the seventeenth century that recreates the excitement and vitality of the times in which he lived - Restoration England. These are not to be confused with fictional diaries such as Sue Townsend's "The Diary of Adrian Mole" or "Diary of a Nobody" by George Grossmith.

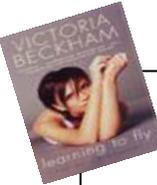
Before you proceed, log on to www.wikipedia.org and search for diary. NOW using your skimming skills answer the following questions:

1. The word **diary** comes from the Latin word _____ meaning _____, while the word **journal** comes originally from the word _____, meaning _____.
2. What is the greatest appeal of a diary?

3. From which part of the world do the oldest surviving diaries come?

4. While to some the word **diary** means a record kept by teenage girls, the diary has been used over the years for more serious purposes. Name ONE. _____
5. The latest type of diary might be considered to be a **BLOG**. What is a **BLOG**? _____





Autobiography



Final Task



You may already have been asked by your teacher to write something autobiographical. Autobiographies are very popular nowadays, with many celebrities and TV stars producing autobiographies which are amongst the UK's top-selling books. However, autobiographies are an old form and have been around for centuries.

Log onto www.wikipedia.org and search for 'autobiography'. Use the information to answer the following questions.

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1. The word **autobiography** is from the _____ language. It is made up of three parts: "autos" meaning _____, "bios" meaning _____ and _____ meaning write.
 2. What is the focus of an autobiography?

 3. These days it is normal to have photographs in an autobiography but it wasn't always so. Who was the first person to include photographs in an autobiography?

 4. Some autobiographies are "ghost-written". What does this mean? _____
 5. Which type of people are most likely to use a 'ghostwriter'? Explain why. _____



Choose an autobiography from the list in the library and read it.



Now that you have finished your platinum award, you are ready to move on to the young adult section of the library. Remember to look at short stories and poetry as well as novels.

Look at a few reading websites like the ones below. Choose a book to read from the lists on offer.

<http://www.readingmatters.co.uk/>

<http://www.childrensbooksequels.co.uk/>

<http://www.randomhouse.com/teens/>

<http://www.cool-reads.co.uk/>

<http://www.bookheads.org.uk/>

<http://www.booktrustchildrensbooks.org.uk/Recommended-Books>

<http://www.fantasticfiction.co.uk/>

<http://www.teenreads.com/features/0410-cool.asp>

Well done

You have completed your PLATINUM Award



Hand your completed workbook to
your English Teacher to receive your
PLATINUM certificate.

Received by :

Date:



Biography

Log onto www.wikipedia.org and search for 'biography'. Use the information to answer the following questions.

1. What is the main difference between an **autobiography** and a **biography**? _____
2. Is a biography fiction or non-fiction? _____
3. The earliest forms of biography were done by which method?

4. Give the name of one of the earliest surviving pieces of biography from the fifth century? _____
5. Why do *Greek* biographies still have much to offer the modern reader? _____

6. Which landmark biography was published in 1550?

There are a number of biographies available in the school library.
Choose one and read it.

Diary cont.

The school library has a collection of modern diaries. (See Mrs Poole for details). Choose one of these diaries to read.

Now have a go at writing a diary of your own.



TASK: Write a series of diary entries for the next fortnight.

Travel Writing



Search for 'travel writing' at www.wikipedia.org .
Answer the following questions:

1. Write a short definition of:
 - travel writing _____

 - travel literature _____

2. Who was responsible for one of the earliest known record of travel for leisure? _____
3. Give the name of one "tourism literature pioneer"

4. The diaries of which famous explorer were the equivalent of today's "bestseller"?

5. Spaceflight may also be considered as travel literature. True or false? _____
6. What can make up a large proportion of travel literature? _____



Essay

Log onto www.wikipedia.org and search for 'essay'. Use the information to answer the following questions:

1. What is an essay? _____
2. The word essay comes from the French infinitive meaning what? _____
3. Give four forms that essays can take:

4. What quality defines an essay?

5. Who was the first author to describe his work as essays? _____
6. Who was responsible for the first essays to be published in English?



Memoir

Look up the word "memoir" on wikipedia.org. Use the information given to answer the following questions:

1. Give three ways in which a memoir differs from an autobiography. _____

2. Which point of view do memoirs generally adopt? _____
3. Name two groups of people who often write memoirs. _____

4. What is a memoirist? _____
5. Women writers have been in the forefront of .. What with the memoir front?

6. What other type of writing is included in the memoir category? _____



Biography cont.

Choose someone that you admire and write a short biography of their life.

You may wish to use the following headings to get you started:

- Name
- Family History
- School Years
- Career
- Achievements
- High points
- Low points
- Admirable qualities



Reference

There are a number of folders in the reference section of the library marked "Essential Articles". These folders contain a selection of newspaper articles which you may find useful when researching or writing a discursive essay.

Using "Essential Articles", find two articles on a subject of your choice. Write down the source and summarise the main points of these articles.

Article 1

Title:

Source:

Main Points:

Article 2

Title:

Source:

Main Points:

