

Reading Autobiography

Beginning with your earliest memories of reading or being read to, retrace your experiences as a reader up to and including the present time. As you think about these experiences, making notes, try to include as much of the following information as possible:

1. The kinds of books you read or that were read to you at particular ages. If you can't remember specific titles and authors, describe the plots, characters, themes, or content you can recall.
2. Your reading or lack of reading when you first became an independent reader.
3. What you read or what was read to you both at school and at home during your elementary school years. (Don't be embarrassed if no one read to you or if you didn't read. Just write about the lack of reading in your life).
4. Facts and feeling about what you read as you moved through the grades up to and including senior high.
5. Your present reading habits and preferences (or lack thereof).
6. The people (family members, teachers, friends, and others) who either turned you off or turned you on to reading and why.
7. Places where you acquired or now acquire books.
8. The feelings and sensations you associate with reading.

After you have taken notes on your experiences as a reader, write an autobiographical sketch on your reading experiences based on the eight guideline question above. Put your development in chronological order so that your autobiography shows the stages you have gone through as a reader.

This information was taken from page 232 in *Content Areas Literacy* (Eighth Edition) by Readance, Bean and Baldwin.