



05 - VOCABULARY: READING BOOKS



- 1 - I was lucky enough to be on holiday last week and spent a portion of it with **my nose in a book**. The noun '**head**' is sometimes used instead of 'nose': *My younger brother always had his nose in a book.*
- 2 - Someone who loves to read and spends a lot of time doing it may be called a **bookworm**: *Jess is a total bookworm. She always has her head in a book.*
- 3 - Continuing with enthusiastic reading, if you **devour a book**, you read it quickly and with great interest: *He devoured all three books in the series.*
- 4 - If you **read a book (from) cover to cover**, you read all of it and if you read it at/in one sitting, you read it all during one time of sitting somewhere and reading: *Millie read the whole book, from cover to cover in one sitting.*
- 5 - People often talk about **getting lost in a book**, meaning that they give the book so much of their attention that they don't notice or think about anything else: *I love that feeling of getting lost in a book.*
- 6 - A favourite book that has been read many times may now be **dog-eared**, meaning that its pages turn down at the corners: *I found a dog-eared old copy on my father's bookshelf.*
- 7 - Another adjective for a book that shows signs of damage after much use is **well-thumbed**: *I came across a well-thumbed copy of the novel in the library.*
- 8 - Two other adjectives for old, much-read books that are no longer in good condition are **battered** and **tatty**: *I have a battered old copy here that belonged to my uncle. / I bought a tatty old copy of the book in a second-hand shop.*
- 9 - But what of the opposite, when we read without enthusiasm? We can say, slightly informally, that **the book didn't grab us**: *I don't know why I couldn't get into the second novel. It just didn't grab me in the way that the first one did.*
- 10 - If we're not interested in a book, we may find ourselves **skipping** (= not reading) parts of it: *I'm afraid I skipped some of the descriptive passages.*