Reading for pleasure

Work in pairs. Look at the words in the word cloud and answer the question.

How are these words related to reading for pleasure?

Example:

What do you think about ‘culture’?

I love reading about other cultures, so for me, this is reading for pleasure. It makes me think about my own culture a lot.
Task 1 – introduction to the Six Book Challenge

Work in pairs. Answer the questions about the Six Book Challenge. If you don’t have a computer, your teacher will give you a handout.

Go to www.readingagency.org.uk/sixbookchallenge

A: Find the ‘About’ section. Answer these questions.

1. What kind of texts can you read?
2. How many texts do you need to read?
3. Where can you do the challenge?
4. What can you do after you create a profile?

B: Go to the ‘Find a read’ section. Answer these questions.

1. How many books are available?
2. Give three examples of ‘type of read’
3. Give three examples of level

C: Find the ‘Chat’ section. Answer these questions.

1. Read three of the posts. What are the people posting about?

book reviews ask questions make recommendations give personal stories something else
Task 2 – types of books

A. Look at the Quick Reads book covers. Answer the questions with your partner.

1. What genre of books do you think they are?
2. What are the books about?
3. Which of the books would you most like to read? Why?

B. Match the book covers and the genres. Then write the names two other genres.

a. thriller
b. romantic
c. detective story
d. biography
e. science-fiction
f. self-help book

Other genres: .............................................

C. Look at the books your teacher has brought. Choose one to read for the Six Book Challenge.
This book is a thriller called ‘Blackout’. It is written by Emily Barr. The story takes place in London and Paris in two different time periods – the present and one year ago. The main characters are a young woman called Sophie, her partner Rob and their baby son.

The story begins when Sophie wakes up in a strange flat in Paris and she has no idea how she got there. The last thing she can remember is when she went to bed in her flat in London. The novel tells the story of how she gets home to London with no money and no passport, and how she tries to understand what has happened to her. The novel has an unexpected ending, when Sophie learns the truth about her trip to Paris and her relationship with Rob.

I liked the book because it was very exciting and it had a shocking ending. I couldn’t stop reading it. The book is very well written and uses a lot of dramatic language to interest the reader.

I would recommend this book to anybody who enjoys reading thrillers and mystery stories.

1. **Read the complete book review about ‘Blackout’ by Emily Barr.**
2. **Is the book review positive or negative?**
3. **Underline** the words and phrases that helped you decide.
Task 4 – language of book reviews

A: match words and meanings
Work in pairs. Match the words and the meanings.

1. author a. the most important people in the story
2. plot b. the time and place of the story
3. setting c. the way the story is written
4. main characters d. what the story is about
5. style e. the writer

B: adjectives and synonyms
Work in pairs. Replace the underlined words with a word from the box.

Example:

1. The story was really silly. ridiculous

   dull        hilarious        terrifying        moving        fantastic        thrilling
   fascinating

   1. The plot is really interesting.
   2. The main character is very funny.
   3. I didn’t enjoy this book because it was boring.
   4. I thought the ending was sad.
   5. The story is unexpected and very exciting.
   6. I found the beginning of this book really scary.
   7. I would recommend this book to anyone because it’s very good.
C: phrases to review books

Look at the sentences from the review. Complete the sentences with phrases from the boxes.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>The novel has an unexpected ending</th>
<th>The story takes place</th>
<th>I would recommend this book</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I liked the book because</td>
<td>The main characters are</td>
<td>It is written</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. ___________________________ by Emily Barr.

2. ___________________________ in London and Paris in two different time periods – the present and one year ago.

3. ___________________________ a young woman called Sophie, her partner Rob and their baby son.

4. ___________________________ when Sophie learns the truth about her trip to Paris and her relationship with Rob.

5. ___________________________ it was very exciting and it had a shocking ending.

6. ___________________________ to anybody who enjoys reading thrillers and mystery stories.

Look at the review in Task 3 again. Check your answers.
Useful language

Introduction
The book I would like to review is…
The last book I read was…
It was written by…

Summarizing the story
It is set in…
It’s about…
The book tells the story of…
The story has an unexpected ending.
The main characters are…
There are many interesting characters, such as…

Opinion and recommendations
What I liked/ didn’t like is…
I think…
I would recommend this book to anyone.
It’s one of the best books I’ve ever read.
I liked/ didn’t like the book because…
The book is very well-written/ badly-written.
Task 5 – the Six Book Challenge diary

Look at the Six Book Challenge diary your teacher gives you. Work in pairs and answer the questions.

1. Look at the first page. What do you get when you have completed the challenge?
2. What is the highest number of stars you can give a book? What does this mean?
3. Look at the back of the diary. What information do you think you could write on the Notes pages? Write some ideas.
4. Look at the last page. Where can you find more ideas of books to read?

Task 6 – the Six Book Challenge website

You are going to create a profile on the Six Book Challenge website. Follow the instructions.

1. Go to www.readingagency.org.uk/sixbookchallenge
2. Click on this button: Sign up now
3. Create your profile

Extra activity:
Work with a partner. Follow the instructions.
1. Click on ‘Add your latest read’
2. Practise writing a book review

Make a word cloud:
Work with a partner. Go to www.wordle.net Write your own word cloud using some of the words and ideas from this lesson. If you don’t have a computer, write in on paper.

Homework:
Agree a date with your teacher to finish reading your book and write your first book review.