Journalism 101

Professor T. Jackson

Chapter 4

Due: October 4

Section 2

There are many reasons to read, and for me (and I would guess many others), a primary one is entertainment. Ever since I learned to read I have enjoyed being whisked into another world, whether it's a world of fantasy where I can fight dragons, or historical fiction where I can be a miner or gunfighter in the old west - the time that I spend reading is marvelously entertaining. I think that based on the sheer number of fiction books that are printed and sold, reading still maintains a very strong attraction as an entertainment medium.

A second reason for reading is topical education. I spend a great deal of time reading various online and paper books for both work and school. When I'm looking for specific information on a topic, I will frequently look for books, articles or journal entries about the subject. In addition, books often contain a depth of information that aren't always available in articles or blog entries. My son frequently reads non-fiction books about subjects that interest him, purely to educate himself about these topics.

A third reason for reading is to expand your vocabulary. An excellent way of expanding vocabulary is by reading words in context. By being exposed to different kinds of literature, especially books of increasing difficulty, a person's selection of words can grow rapidly. I see this in action with my own children - they are constantly looking up words in the dictionary, or asking me what new words mean. In this way, I am continually seeing them being exposed to a wider vocabulary.