

NYJC Prelim 2013 Paper 2 Answer Scheme

1. What does the word 'frivolous' (line 3) suggest about the story found in the children's English Language test? (1)

Lifted	
'Frivolous'	The story does not have any serious purpose or value Meaningless, useless, unrealistic – 0

2. Why were the parents surprised by their inability to agree on a common answer to the multiple choice question that followed the story (lines 3-6)? (1)

Lifted	Inferred
They read a frivolous little story about tiger cubs learning to tear bark off logs, and found to their surprise, that they couldn't agree on a single answer to the multiple choice question that followed	The parents had expected themselves to be able to understand the message from <u>the simple/straightforward</u> story (1m)

3. How would students benefit if 'standardised testing' (line 10) were removed from the education system? **Use your own words as far as possible.** (2)

Lifted	Paraphrased
<p>The problem stems from the standardized testing prevalent in education systems, which forces the learning experience into a pragmatic rigidity. Even a banal story like this tiger-cub tale requires some moral, some message to be drawn from it, and the need to reduce the work to a single idea does a disservice to both reader and text.</p>	<p>1) <u>Contrast with pragmatic rigidity:</u></p> <p>Learning can be more fun/enjoyable/students can enjoy the process of learning (1m)</p> <p><i>Any variation of learning being fun/for non-pragmatic benefit is accepted</i></p> <p><i>Accept lift of 'learning'</i></p> <p>2) <u>Contrast with reducing the work to a single idea</u></p> <p>Students would be allowed to have greater range of interpretation/broader appreciation of the literature/learn flexibly (1m)</p> <p><i>Anything to do with broadening perspectives is given BOD</i></p> <p>Mediocre text—0</p>

4. What is the similarity and difference between the 17th-century Puritans (line 15) and modern helicopter parents (line 18)? **Use your own words as far as possible.** (2)

Lifted	Paraphrased
<p>17th-century Puritans in America had big doubts about any kind of non-scriptural storytelling. This meant that other than religious narratives, all other texts were distractions. Their determination to teach their kids to read purposefully was as strong as any modern helicopter parent, if for other reasons: for Puritans, reading the Bible was essential to getting into heaven, rather than into</p>	<p>Similarity : That they both want a practical outcome from reading / reading is seen as a means to an end</p> <p><i>(Answers should emphasize that the outcome should be practical)</i></p> <p>Difference: Modern helicopter parents want children to read to get into better schools/ attain higher education while 17th century Puritans wanted their children to get into heaven/paradise</p> <p>OR</p> <p>Modern helicopter parents want children to read to get a better physical life while the Puritans wanted their children to grow spiritually</p>

Harvard.	<p>Mark is awarded as long as answers give the idea of religious VS academic/educational purposes</p> <p>No lifting of 'Harvard</p>
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5. Explain what the author means by 'neither black nor white, but something too troublingly colourful' (lines 20-21). **Use your own words as far as possible.** (3)

Lifted	Paraphrased
As the Puritans saw it, fiction might deflect the reader from more profitable occupation and its purpose was neither white nor black, but something too troublingly colourful : to make one merry or to pass away Precious Time.	<p>The author means that the purpose of fiction</p> <p>a) could not be clearly defined in practical terms (1m) (neither black nor white)</p> <p>b) but was disturbingly/uncomfortably/uneasily (1m) (troublingly)</p> <p>c) broad in definition / open to multiple definitions (1m). (colourful)</p> <p>OR</p> <p>c) used for enjoyment or to waste time (1m) (to make one merry or to pass away Precious Time)</p> <p>The author means that the purpose of fiction could not be clearly defined, and this brought unease/discomfort/anxiety as it seemed open to far too many definitions / as it seemed to encourage wasting time / having fun.</p>

6. Explain the author's use of capital letters in 'Precious Time' (line 21). (1)

Lifted	
As the Puritans saw it, fiction might deflect the reader from more profitable occupation and its purpose was neither white nor black, but something too troublingly colourful: to make one merry or to pass away Precious Time .	<p>1. The author is mocking the idea/ being sarcastic that the reading of fiction is a mundane waste of time.</p> <p>OR</p> <p>2. The author is emphasizing their obsession with not wasting time</p>

7. According to the author in paragraph 4, why do today's parents urge their children to read, and why do they 'anxiously' (line 23) do so? **Use your own words as far as possible.** (2)

Lifted	
Today's parents may anxiously urge their kids to read novels like "Charlotte's Web" or "Fahrenheit 451," but any desire to make their offspring merry is far overshadowed by the belief that reading is essential to getting ahead in life.	<p>This is because they believe that reading will help them to succeed/get to a better school/excel in school/ get better grades. (1m)</p> <p>As long as the idea that reading will help them get ahead is present, mark is awarded</p> <p>AND</p> <p>They do so anxiously because they are overly concerned/worried/fearful about their children's success in life (1m) (<i>literal explanation of 'anxiety'</i>)</p> <p>OR</p> <p>....because of the competitiveness of society/ societal pressures/ don't want children to lose out (1m) (<i>reason for 'anxiety'</i>)</p>

8. What is the author hinting at by her use of the phrase 'old uneasiness' (line 31)? (2)

Lifted	
Whenever a novel's merits are described in terms of the life lessons that it imparts, you can detect that old uneasiness over the non-utilitarian nature of fiction being appeased.	<p>The author is hinting that</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) people have not changed the antiquated/archaic/old-fashioned idea (<i>outdated is not accepted</i>) b) that reading fiction is a waste of time (context) c) and are still feeling uncomfortable/anxious about it. <p>OR</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) people's anxiety /discomfort b) over the non-pragmatic characteristic of fiction (context)

	<p>c) has not changed with time / has persisted till today</p> <p><i>Explanation of 'old', 'uneasiness' and the subject/context of the 'old uneasiness' is needed for full 2 marks</i></p> <p>3 points 2 marks , 1-2points 1 mark</p>
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9. Explain the irony in the last sentence of paragraph 6. (2)

Lifted	
<p>The laughable irony of it all is that most of us will find little practical use for information on quantum mechanics, the military stratagems of World War II or the private life of Eleanor Roosevelt.</p>	<p>Expected: Reading non-fictional books should provide us with more useful knowledge and skills</p> <p>Reality: yet the truth is we seldom have opportunities to apply them in real life.</p>

10. What answer does the author give in paragraph 10 to her opening question in line 1?
(1)

Lifted	
<p>Opening Question: What is the purpose of reading fiction?</p> <p>Answer:</p> <p>Fiction is really an end in itself.....an inimitable pleasure</p>	<p>Reading is an end in itself / reading is its own reward</p> <p>OR</p> <p>The purpose of fiction is joy/enjoyment/pleasure</p> <p>Pleasure/enjoyment/fun/ any variation of pleasure will be accepted</p>

11. Using material from paragraphs 8-10 only, summarise what the author has to say about the benefits of reading fiction.

Write your summary in no more than 120 words, not counting the opening words which are printed below. **Use your own words as far as possible.** 8 marks

The benefits of reading fiction are ...

Lifted	Paraphrased
1. It is perhaps best understood as a sudden expansion of the spirit (line 55)	increased understanding/changed attitude/mindset/perception <i>(accept any answer that shows understanding that reading has enabled our perception to be changed or matured)</i>
2. great literature is an experience (line 55-56)	Reading is an adventure/encounter
3.and a revelation (line 56)	That gives us new insights/enlightenments/epiphanies/ discovery
4.It draws us irresistibly into the world of fictional characters where perhaps we discover with great excitement (line 56-57)	We find with much enthusiasm/thrill/amazement Anything that gives the idea of excitement
5. that a book's character is like us or thinks and feels like us (line 57)	that fictional personas may be similar to us in personality and experience Accept lift of 'character'
6.We become <u>time-travellers</u> and bold explorers as we hop in and out of <u>ancient epochs and futuristic landscapes</u> , (lines 59-60)	We learn about history / different time periods Give marks for answers that convey experience of different time periods
7. <u>traversing a thousand civilisations</u> along the way as we turn the pages. (lines 60)	<i>(inferred to something regarding broadening horizons, learning about other cultures)</i> And other cultures Give marks for answers that convey different geographical location/space/places
8.We escape the drudgery of the day-to-day (lines 60-61)	We are freed from the mundane (paraphrase of 'drudgery' is needed)
9.Our imaginations are unspeakably enriched (line 62)	And our creativity is enhanced Anything that shows the idea of increased ability to think/greater innovation
10.our concentration strengthened (line 64)	Our attention span / focus increased

11.proved to be an invigorating exercise for the sluggish modern brain (line 64)	Rejuvenating activity for the brain
12.resulting in a mental acuity that far outlives the classroom setting (lines 64-65)	Develop a keenness of mind
13.reading (fiction) is really an end in itself (lines 68-69)	Reading has inherent rewards
14..... the intangible rewards (line 69)	That are impalpable/ cannot be calculated / measured
15.for an inimitable pleasure (line 69)	gives us delight/joy/contentment
16.increased real-life capacity for empathy (line 71)	Increased ability to feel for others / compassion
17. develop a heightened sense of inclusion (lines 72-73)	Increased ability to accept others/ solidarity/increased cohesiveness/community spirit Not accepted: Increased sense of belonging
18.reading can teach (line 74)	Reading can educate us
19. or motivate (line 74)	And inspire us/spur us on
<p>Mark scheme:</p> <p>1-2: 1 mark 3-4: 2 marks 5-6: 3 marks 7-8: 4 marks 9-10: 5 marks 11-13: 6 marks 14-16: 7 marks 17-19: 8 marks</p>	

12. In this article, Laura Miller makes a number of observations about reading fiction. How applicable do you find her observations to yourself and your own society? [10]

Point	Applicable	Not applicable
The problem stems from the standardised testing prevalent in education systems, which forces the learning experience [of reading] into a pragmatic rigidity (lines 9-10)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Reading sessions in schools are restricted to only select material deemed to help subjects <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Time/Economist 2. Reading for pleasure is rarely encouraged <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Singapore's education system is outcome oriented. Anything that is not immediately beneficial is not encouraged 3. Only books relevant to syllabus are used. Students read fiction that is part of a given reading list or their literature texts <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Implications: Students only know material that is from books and do not do any further reading because there is nothing tangible (marks) to be gained, resulting in a generation that is only academically inclined. b. E.g. Studies show that fewer Singaporean students reported reading for pleasure than many other countries (however HK/China students ranked even lower) 4. Many Singaporean adults do not read for pleasure, or they do not even read because their lives no longer require reading 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Libraries often feature popular 'book[s] of the month' that have nothing to do with school syllabus <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Implications: these interesting 'books of the month' may tempt students to read books that are not related to their school work 2. Some schools are now coming out with the Extensive Reading programme where students are encouraged to read for pleasure <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Example: The Singapore American school has a standard 'for pleasure' reading list to encourage students to read b. Implication: More students reading for pleasure than simply for educational reasons 3. Standardised testing does not necessarily make reading rigid <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Students still read for pleasure and without needing to glean lessons for books/ any reason aside from the fact that the book is interesting

	<p>(pragmatic approach to reading)</p> <p>a. Implications: These adults become parents who do not encourage reading for pleasure, thus perpetuating a cycle</p> <p>5. There are currently only about 3,000 students taking literature, compared to 16,970 in 1992. This is because students feel that this subject is difficult to score in and not a practical choice.</p>	
<p>“17th-century Puritans in America had big doubts about any kind of non-scriptural storytelling. This meant that other than religious narratives, all other texts were distractions.” (lines 15-16)</p>	<p>1. Among the more religious in Singapore, fiction that is recommended to children is chosen with much care. There are many bookshops that sell religious fiction that are written with religious values and morals (e.g. Pilgrim’s Progress, the Chronicles of Narnia) so that children imbibe these values and focus on their religious purpose in life (e.g. to serve God or to do good).</p> <p>2. Religious texts are encouraged in place of fiction (e.g. The Bible is held with high regard in Protestant and Catholic mission schools and kindergartens in Singapore and scripture reading is part and parcel of morning assembly; the Koran is also highly esteemed and given highest priority in Religious Education in Madrasahs, Muslim religious schools in Singapore).</p> <p>3. Parents do not encourage non-religious reading</p>	<p>1. Although fiction written with a religious slant is more popular among more religious parents, Singaporean parents are not as extreme as 17th-century Puritans. Parents see the importance of the development of creativity and imagination in their children and will not prevent their children from reading secular fiction. As long as the books are not overtly against their religious values (Da Vinci code is not encouraged in many churches here), children are allowed to read widely. Even homeschooling curricula encourage reading of classics and other books.</p> <p>2. Most schools in Singapore are secular and do not have Religious Knowledge classes. Literature texts are</p>

	<p>because they may teach values that are at odds with their religion and (e.g. The Da Vinci Code, a popular suspense novel by Dan Brown, was banned as there were complaints centred on the book's speculations and alleged misrepresentations of core aspects of Christianity and the history of Roman Catholic Church; Satanic Verses by Salmon Rushdie, printed in 1988 brought about heated and frequent violent reactions of some Muslims all over the world. Many Muslims in Singapore also accused Rushdie of blasphemy or unbelief and the book was banned in Singapore as well in order to prevent a potentially violent situation).</p> <p>4. There is an increasing trend of homeschooling especially among families that want religion to be a bigger part of their school curriculum. This also allows parents to have more control of the values and types of secular fiction that their children read.</p>	<p>chosen based on their literary value rather than on their moral value.</p>
<p>Today's parents may anxiously urge their kids to read novels like "Charlotte's Web" or "Fahrenheit 451," but any desire to make their offspring merry is far overshadowed by the belief that reading is essential to getting ahead in life. (lines 23-25)</p>	<p>1. Many Singaporean parents still fit into the stereotypical Asian/Tiger Mum & Dad stereotype who enforce a reading habit in their children in order for them not to lose out. Holidays are spent in the library and reading classes are a must from a young age. In fact, many parents have started reading to their children even during pregnancy so that the children start</p>	<p>1. The Tiger Mum/Dad is merely a stereotype and parents these days are more concerned about their children's interests and ensuring their children have an enjoyable childhood. While parents do encourage their children to read in order for them to improve their language ability/vocabulary, they do not simply force their children to read. The reading classes that are</p>

	<p>“reading” as early as possible.</p> <p>2. Many parents do not allow their children to read anything that appeals to them; instead, they follow recommended reading lists, such as those provided by the National Library Board/ “10 Best Books for Kids” by the magazine <i>The Asian Parent</i>, so that their children will have read the “required” classics and not lose out. <i>I Can Read</i> classes are very popular amongst parents, not because they can inculcate the joy of reading in children, but because children can learn phonics and vocabulary from the classes.</p> <p>3. Parents also push their children to read fiction that is needed for school programmes/projects. The Gifted Education Programme in Singapore has an Extended Reading Project where students have to prepare a visual presentation with their reflections and opinions on 2 books from a list of over 100 titles. Book reports are the norm for both English and Mother Tongue lessons and children are often forced by their parents and teachers to read specific fiction titles that may not be what they are interested in.</p>	<p>most popular amongst parents are those that make it fun for children to read. E.g. It is not fair to claim parents enrol their children in <i>I Can Read</i> simply for the practical benefits but also because the classes are known for inculcating a love for fiction in their children. The importance that parents place on enjoyment in reading is also the reason for the increase in number of centres that claim to make reading fun (e.g. <i>Cogito</i> is a and IQ Development Centre dramatizes classics such as <i>The Little Prince</i> and <i>Animal Farm</i> for young children so that they can enjoy reading and learning from them)</p> <p>2. Reading for fun and to get ahead in life need not be mutually exclusive. Parents naturally do not want their children to be left behind yet, at the same time, they do not want them to lose the joy of reading. E.g. <i>Harry Potter</i> and <i>Mr Midnight</i> books regularly top the bestseller charts in local bookstores despite them not being “classics” and having little educational value.</p> <p>3. Many parents now recognize the intrinsic benefits of reading and are willing to pay more for books that are more exciting and engaging for their children. E.g. the reading of Chinese books used to be a chore for many Singaporean Chinese children. ‘Flip for joy’ is a popular local bookstore</p>
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		<p>that stocks Chinese books with highly interactive elements - peek-a-boo pictures, lift-the-flaps, pull-outs and stickers to engage children and stretch their imagination. Most of these books cost more than \$15.</p> <p>4. Parents see reading as a means of parent-child bonding rather than simply a means to get ahead in life. They make it a point to make reading of fiction fun for their children. The National Library Board has a series of programmes (“Born to read, read to bond” package for parents to read to infants; “10000 Fathers” to encourage fathers to read and bond with their children and “Letters from Grandma & Grandpa”) to promote family bonding through reading. (For more info, look for “Reading Campaigns” in the NLB website http://www.pl.sg/)</p> <p>5. The ones to be blamed for making reading so pragmatic/more of a chore may be the education system rather than the parents. While parents would like their children to be given more free rein in their choice of reading material, schools enforce reading lists that students have to follow, compelling parents to do likewise.</p>
In adults, the old Puritan attitude of purposeful reading leads us to demand fiction to be the delivery mechanism for instructional or inspirational messages. (Lines 29-30)	<p>1. Many adults do not read fiction because it is deemed as a waste of time</p> <p>a. Singapore’s fast pace of life doesn’t allow the slowing down to enjoy a</p>	<p>1. Many adults still enjoy reading</p> <p>a. The founding of Books and Beer bookclub for adults to enjoy company and the love of</p>

	book that has no purpose other than to entertain.	books
<p>The urge to find a moral, an instruction for productive living, a life philosophy has eclipsed the whimsical rumination or plain old-fashioned fun in just losing oneself in imaginary characters and their imaginary escapades.</p> <p>(lines 36 – 39)</p>	<p>1. The popularity of the genre of self-help books in Singapore are a testament to this overwhelming need to try to extract a message / moral to give meaning / belief that books should provide tangible solutions. The stressful lifestyle in Singapore due to the demands on both students and the workforce as well as the fast paced lifestyle equates to the desire for a quick fix solution to problems – ranging from marital problems, stress at work to dealing with children</p> <p>E.g. Popularity of self-help books have soared and many are on best seller lists in major bookstores in Singapore</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Latest bestseller on the life of Nick Vujicic “Life Without Limits” - “Chicken Soup for the Soul” and its many versions – for mothers, teenagers, “Don’t Sweat the Small Stuff” are very popular among Singaporeans - Kinokuniya has a weekly bestsellers list and a large proportion is dedicated to self help bestsellers - Stephen Covey’s “The Even Habits of Highly 	<p>1. More and more Singaporeans realize the importance of reading fiction and how meaning need not be direct but rather what you choose to make of it.</p> <p>2. Many today do read for relaxation and to immerse themselves in scenarios that they cannot explore in reality. It is precisely because of the stressful lifestyle of Singaporeans cause them to find a form of “escapism”. This is in part due to the rise of easy reading fiction as well as blockbuster movies made from books such as Harry Potter and the Twilight series</p> <p>Eg: Books like Harry Potter despite being a book catered to teenagers are very popular amongst adults as well. Likewise those that are based on fantasy and horror: Twilight series and Lord of the Rings</p> <p>3. The portability of dedicated e-readers and apps and easy of downloading books are bringing back reading into many people’s lives. This is coupled with the low prices associated with ebooks which can often be half the price of the hardcopy version.</p> <p>4. As a nation with one of the highest number of mobile device users, more</p>

	<p>Effective People” has remained a bestseller in Singapore bookstores for years</p>	<p>Singaporeans find it less of a hassle to bring and read books with them on the move.</p> <p>Evidence: the number of e-book downloads from the library rose from 3.9million in the financial year ended March 2011 to 4.9 million in the financial year ended March 2012.</p> <p>To meet the surging demand for e-books, the National Library Board (NLB) will add 820,000 more e-books to its virtual shelves, bringing the size of its e-book collection to more than three million by year-end. (Refer to Straits Times article, May 2013 “Dive into the World of Digital Books”)</p> <p>5. Many Singaporeans do not read fiction because they feel they can find the same pleasure from watching movies or drama serials.</p>
<p>As a result, fiction is more and more perceived a waste of time, forsaken for other forms of purposeful, non-fictional reading: be they academic textbooks, historical narratives, or autobiographies.(lines 43-45)</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Singaporeans have the highest daily newspaper readership in Asia, yet not many Singaporeans are avid book (fiction) readers 2. In a study done in 2008 which investigated the reading habits and preferences of Generation-X Singaporean adults in the range of 28 - 42 years, findings suggested that although attitude towards reading remained positive, the number reflected a lower percentage of readers. Top reasons for 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Singaporeans do not read not because they find fiction useless. They do not read because there are too many other distractions. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. They do not forsake fiction for anything more ‘useful’ because studies have shown that most Gen X prefer watching TV and surfing the internet to reading at all 2. The non-fiction reading culture of Singaporean

	<p>the lack of reading were time, energy and the preference of television and internet-related activities. Readers tended to adopt pragmatic and utilitarian approach towards reading. Convenience was found to alter attitudes. They read for information and personal development first, followed by relaxation. Reading preferences varied along demographic lines.</p> <p>3. Another study by Shaheen Majid, an Associate Professor of NTU found that majority of primary school students were motivated to read for academically-related reasons, such as to improve language skills and to obtain better grades in examinations. She also found that reading was the third most preferred leisure activity after hobbies and playing on computer or the Internet.</p> <p>4. With the strong focus on acquisition scientific knowledge, many children in Singapore grow up more interested in reading non-fiction (to find out more about the world) than in fiction.</p>	<p>society stems not from the perceived uselessness of fiction, but from the fact that they are not good readers at all (e.g. read slowly and therefore find it a chore to read, not linguistically inclined, do not understand the cultural references in books written by foreign writers). Since they are not good at it, they do not find pleasure in it, regardless of whether they are reading fiction or non-fiction.</p>
...we become time-travellers and bold explorers as we hop in and out of ancient epochs and futuristic landscapes, traversing	1. In an increasingly globalised world, there is greater access to news about other countries and more	1. Many Singaporeans prefer real life travelling to reading fiction, especially since they can well afford

<p>a thousand civilisations along the way (In 59-60)</p>	<p>opportunities to travel. As such Singaporeans are less parochial and more interested in cultures outside of Singapore. Books by authors about cultures of other countries and eras, such as Paulo Coehlo, Philippa Gregory, Khaled Hosseini etc have great popularity in Singapore and are mainstays on the bestseller lists of major bookstores such as Kinokuniya.</p> <p>2. There is no better way to travel the world than to read fiction, as authors located all over the world transform their experiences and creativity in messages into narratives that can enthrall the reader and offer insights to wholly new civilizations. Sometimes, the authors also, via extensive research, offer a gripping story set not only in a different country and culture but also a different time period, which provides invaluable inroads to how other people lived in the past, or via an electrifying imagination, conjure up a landscape of the future.</p> <p>3. These can be seen via James Clavell's books of ancient Japan, such as "Tai-pan", Philippa Gregory's historical English romances like "The Other Boleyn Girl", Khaled Hosseini's</p>	<p>it. The number of Singaporeans travelling overseas for leisure has doubled in the last 10 years. Singaporeans tend to read travel guides about the countries than fiction.</p> <p>2. Although reading fiction may theoretically bring about these rewards, the author has neglected to consider that reading fiction may not necessarily result in the same outcomes for Singaporeans. It may be argued that for this benefit of reading fiction to be experienced, the reader needs to be immersed in the narrative, and it takes a fertile imagination to be so immersed in a narrative to the extent of really living the characters' lives or gaining inroads into other cultures and time periods. This imagination may be lacking in Singaporeans who are notoriously pragmatic and have a tendency to sideline the Arts, especially Literature, for pragmatic concerns. As such, the ability to immerse oneself in a book's narrative doesn't come naturally for many. Also, immersion in a narrative takes time, and Singaporeans, with their very busy lives may only read in fits and bursts, and as such, to achieve such armchair travelling is a</p>
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	<p>wartorn Afghanistan in “The Kite Runner” or Amitav Ghosh’s colonial India in “Sea of Poppies,” and “River of Smoke”. Books about time-travel like “The Time-traveller’s Wife” also conjure up ‘futuristic landscapes’ that make our imagination run wild, and JD Robb’s futuristic crime novels, the “In Death” series have a loyal readership in Singapore. Even ‘The Hitchhiker’s Guide to the Galaxy’ allows us to be ‘brave explorers’ without even leaving our room.</p>	luxury they can ill-afford
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Just for interest:

Understanding the reading habits of children in Singapore

<http://www.vnseameo.org/zakir/Understanding-the-reading-habits-of-children-in-singapore.pdf>

Books and Beer club Singapore

<http://booksandbeersingapore.tumblr.com/>

Reading habits of Gen X Singaporeans

<http://www.slis.tsukuba.ac.jp/a-liep2009/proceedings/Papers/a24.pdf>