Books and reading ESL lesson plan (B1)

B1 (intermediate) · 60 minutes · for English teachers · englishcue.app

Stage	Time
Warm-up	5–10 min
Vocabulary	15 min
Controlled practice	10 min
Grammar focus	10 min
Speaking	15 min
Wrap-up and homework	5 min

1. Warm-up (5–10 min)

- Tell me about a book you could not put down.
- What book would you recommend to everyone, and why?
- Have you ever started a book and not finished it?

2. Vocabulary (15 min)

Elicit each word before you give it, model the pronunciation, then check meaning with a quick question.

Word	Meaning	Example
plot	the main events in a story	The plot is very clever.
setting	the time and place where a story happens	The setting is 19th-century London.
ending	the last part of a story	The ending was a surprise.
genre	a type of book, like crime or romance	What genre do you read most?
page-turner	a book so exciting that you want to keep reading	Her latest thriller is a real page-turner.
book club	a group of people who read the same book and discuss it	I joined a book club.
publish	to print a book and sell it to the public	The novel was published in 1960.
memoir	a book someone writes about their own life	She wrote a memoir about her childhood.
series	a set of books about the same characters	It's the third book in the series.
narrator	the person who tells the story	The narrator is a ten-year-old boy.

Grammar focus (10 min): Narrative tenses: telling a story

Elena writes a travel blog: “It was midnight and it was raining. I was walking back to my hotel when I suddenly realised I had left my bag in the restaurant. I ran back, but the restaurant had closed…” By the end of this lesson you can tell a story using three past tenses.

Form	Pattern	Example
Background	was / were + -ing	It was raining. I was walking home.
Events	past simple, in order	I realised… I ran back…
Earlier	had + participle	I had left my bag.
Sequencers	One day · Suddenly · Then · In the end	Eventually, we found the hotel.

Watch for: ~~I walked home when it started to rain.~~ → **I was walking home when it started to rain.**. Background action in progress: continuous.

Speaking (15 min): The two-minute book club

The learner presents a book, article or podcast in two minutes: what it is about, why they chose it and who should read it. You ask three questions and decide whether you would read it.

Useful language

- It’s about… / It tells the story of…
- I couldn’t put it down. / I gave up halfway.
- I’d recommend it to anyone who…
- It’s set in…
- a novel · a chapter · a plot · a character
- It made me think about…

Wrap-up and homework (5 min)

- Each learner says the three new words they will remember, and one sentence with each.
- Homework: write 80–120 words about books and reading using at least six words from the lesson and the grammar point.
- Self-study: the B1 books and reading vocabulary page on englishcue.app has a self-correcting quiz with all 22 words.

Books and reading (B1)

Student handout · Name: _____ · Date: _____

A. Word bank

bookworm · flicked through · moving · get into · imagination · put it down · well-written · describes

B. Complete the sentences

Use a word from the word bank. Then compare with a partner.

1. Reading develops your _____.
2. It took me a while to _____ the book.
3. I've always been a _____.
4. I _____ a magazine at the doctor's.
5. The ending was very _____.
6. The author _____ the city beautifully.
7. It was so good I couldn't _____.
8. It's a very _____ novel.

C. Talk with a partner

Ask and answer. Make notes of one interesting answer to report to the class.

1. Do you listen to audiobooks or podcasts instead of reading?
2. What did you have to read at school? Did you enjoy it?
3. How do you choose what to read next?
4. Has a book ever changed your mind about something?
5. Would you like to write a book? What about?

Write

Write 80–120 words about books and reading. Use six words from the lesson.

Answer key

B. Complete the sentences: 1 imagination · 2 get into · 3 bookworm · 4 flicked through · 5 moving · 6 describes · 7 put it down · 8 well-written