



THE BOOK

Lesson code: 135V-HICN-J1G

Advanced (C1-C2)

 British English

1 Warm up



1. What was the last book you read, in any language?
2. Explain what this expression means: Never judge a book by its cover. Do you agree?
3. Think of five things that the front and back of a book cover usually include.

2 Watch for main idea

You are going to watch a TED talk from the *Small Thing, Big Idea* series called, "Why books are here to stay." Before you watch, read these questions and try to predict the answers. Then watch and check your ideas.

1. In what ways is a book like a person?

Video



2. Why were early books luxury items?
3. Why did people use to throw away the paper covers of their books?
4. What relationship do readers have with authors through their books?
5. What attractive features do traditional books have, as opposed to e-books?



3 Watch for detail

The speaker, Chip Kidd, uses lots of **discourse markers**. These are words or phrases which help to structure a talk and call the listener's attention to a point and its significance. Discourse markers improve the listener's understanding and enjoyment.

Read these sentences from the talk and complete the gaps with a suitable discourse marker from the list. Then listen to the talk again to check your ideas.

Actually	frankly	And frankly
I mean	in and of themselves	in and of itself
of all things	Such that	or what have you
you know		

- The physical object of a book is almost like a person. _____, it has a spine and it has a backbone. It has a face.
- _____ it can sort of be your friend. Books record the basic human experience like no other medium can.
- Before there were books, ancient civilizations would record things by notches on bones or rocks _____.
- _____, they were luxury items.
- It wasn't until the turn of the nineteenth into the twentieth century that book jackets could be seen as interesting design _____.
- _____ I look at that and I think, "I want to read that. That interests me."
- The physical book itself represents both a technological advance but also a piece of technology _____.
- And then you have, _____, the smell of a book. Fresh ink on paper or the aging paper smell.
- The book itself, _____, can't be turned off with a switch.
- A shelf of books, _____, is made to outlast you, no matter who you are.

Now write the discourse markers next to their meaning or function, as they are used in the talk:

- And other similar things/etcetera:
- Alone, without considering external factors:
- Surprisingly:
- To clarify/make something clear:
- To emphasise:
- With the result that:

Read sentences 1-10, focusing on achieving fluency with the discourse markers.



4 Mini presentation

You are going to plan and deliver a mini presentation about a book cover (1-2 mins). You can access the internet on your phone to find an example or remember a book cover that has made an impression on you. The book can be something you have already read or something you think you might like to read, in any language. It can be any genre - fiction, non-fiction or even a children's book.

You should include these points:

- Basic information about the book - title, author, genre
- What information the cover illustration gives about the content of the book
- What you like/don't like about the cover
- Why you enjoyed the book or think you would enjoy the book

You must also include at least 3 different types of discourse markers from the previous exercise.

Deliver your presentation to a classmate or the teacher. Your listener should do three things:

1. Make a note of the discourse markers that you use in your presentation.
2. Stop you after 2 minutes by saying, "Thank you very much."
3. Ask you a follow-up question.

5 Discuss

Discuss any of these questions in pairs or small groups.

1. People organize their book collections in lots of different ways. What are the advantages and disadvantages of each of these ways?
 - alphabetically by author or title
 - by topic, e.g. crime, travel, cooking, etc.
 - by colour of the coverCan you think of any other ways?
2. Do you think e-book readers will ever completely replace traditional books? Why/not?
3. The speaker says: I will lend books to people, but of course, the rule is, "Don't do that unless you never intend to see that book again." To what extent do you agree with this statement?

