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Food for thought: Surveys suggest that people who read non-fiction are more likely to want to care for the planet.

Are books sacred? The best non-fiction tells true stories of war, slavery, crime, adventure, celebrity and everyday life. Some say reading is key for understanding our world.

What's happening?

The best books can change the world.

Here are six amazing books to expand the mind this **Non-Fiction November**.

Find out more

The life of Olaudah Equiano: The true-life story of a man forced into slavery. Equiano talks about how he was captured and he bought his own freedom.

Kaputt by Curzio Malaparte: A shocking report from **World War Two** written by an Italian **journalist**, soldier and spy.

Chernobyl Prayer by Svetlana Alexievich: **Nobel Prize** winner Alexievich's book looks at the 1986 **Chernobyl** disaster through the people who were there.

Three-Month Fever by Gary Indiana: In 1997 the fashion designer Gianni Versace was killed. Gary Indiana tells the story of how this happened.

The Years by Annie Ernaux: One of the world's greatest living writers looks back on her life and modern French history.

Hollywood Babylon by Kenneth Anger: Film director Anger was a huge gossip. His book tells dozens of stories from Hollywood.

Yes! Books are magic. Reading them can transport you to far away places in far away times. Nothing else makes us think in this way.

Are books **sacred**?

Some say

Others think

No! A television show or film is a much better way to learn about history. With a TV show, you are much more likely to feel like you are really there.

Some people say

"When I get a little money I buy books; and if any is left I buy food and clothes."

Desiderius Erasmus (1466 – 1536),
Dutch philosopher

Empty heading

What do you think?

Six steps to discovery

1. **Connect**

How do you feel about this story? - Do you have a favourite book?

2. **Wonder**

What questions do you have? - For example: How many books are read each year? What are the most popular books of all time?

3. **Investigate**

What are the facts? - Lots of people recommend books! Who are you most likely to listen to and why?

4. **Construct**

What is your point of view? - You are asked to write a non-fiction book. What would you write about?

5. **Express**

What do others believe? - In pairs, discuss your favourite books. Choose one to recommend to your partner based on their favourites.

6. **Reflect**

What might happen next? - Write a review of the last book you read.

Glossary

Non-Fiction November - An annual event that encourages readers to focus on non-fiction books during the month of November.

World War Two - A global war that lasted from 1939 to 1945 and included all of the great powers.

Journalist - Somebody who writes about the latest news for newspapers and magazines or explains the news on television.

Nobel prize - One of a set of prizes, laid out in the will of Swedish chemist Alfred Nobel, given each year to people who "have conferred the greatest benefit to humankind".

Chernobyl - The disaster, in 1986, involved a meltdown at a nuclear plant in Ukraine.

Sacred - Connected to God or another religious deity and so deserving of respect.