



The Power of Compound Reading

Reading Advantage in College and Career Admissions

Think of the power of reading as the same as the power of saving money. In both reading books and saving money, you earn a benefit. With saving money it's called compound interest, with reading I call it "compound benefits." With reading, as with money, the benefits become larger and larger the more you continue to read or save over time.

It's called the "principle of compounding" and when applied to reading, the compound benefits are unlimited and can be one of the major tipping points for college and career admissions.

Compounding is a strategy that makes your reading work for you for your entire life. Compound reading is regarded as the most powerful tool to grow yourself. You can use the power of compound reading to help you to succeed in your goals after high school, such as entrance to college, career, or self-building.

Simply put, with compound reading you gain multiple benefits from your continual reading. You can gain a multitude of mastery skills to support the many opportunities and challenges you will have after graduating from high school. As a comparison, in sports you need a set of athletic skills that allow you to play multiple positions in multiple sports. With a wide set of athletic skills, you can play almost any sport that you choose, but first you have to build and improve those athletic skills. Similarly, compound reading arms you with a set of "mastery skills" that you can use after high school and during life to increase your opportunities for success.

If you are one of the millions of students looking to improve your reading skill, then you should try out the Citizens High School's Directed Reading Program. Getting started is easy. Simply tell your Guidance Counselor that you want to improve your reading skills and you found an accredited high school that offers a reading improvement program for credit. Make sure you provide the counselor the [program link](#), along with the guaranteed transfer credit request form. Once approved by your local counselor, simply just go to the [CHS website and enroll in the program](#).



Three Book Rule for High School Students with a Focus on College or Career

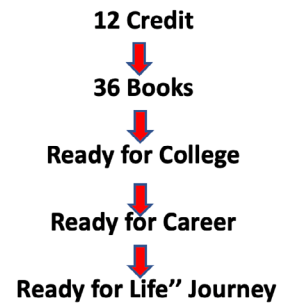
Read 3 books in 4 months and earn 1 credit. This is the standard amount of work needed (rigor) to complete a high school directed reading class and earn 1 credit in most US public and private high schools. Each book or book equivalent should equal about 250 to 300 pages and take about 20 to 25 hours of reading effort to finish each book.

The effort of 250 to 300 pages can be in the form of a single traditional book or a book equivalent of a series of articles, research time or documentaries that all focus on a single subject area to achieve some degree of the mastery you are seeking for college, career or self-improvement.

Brian Tracy, the top personal success authority in the world states: “if you read only one book per month, that will put you into the top 1 percent of income earners in our society.” Just as a sidebar, Bill Gates, the richest man in the world, reads one book every week.

<u>9th Grade</u>	<u>9th Grade</u>	<u>11th Grade</u>	<u>12th Grade</u>
Semester 1	Semester 1	Semester 1	Semester 1
Book # 1	Book # 1	Book # 1	Book # 1
Book # 2	Book # 2	Book # 2	Book # 2
Book # 3	Book # 3	Book # 3	Book # 3
Semester 2	Semester 2	Semester 2	Semester 2
Book # 4	Book # 4	Book # 4	Book # 4
Book # 5	Book # 5	Book # 5	Book # 5
Book # 6	Book # 6	Book # 6	Book # 6
Semester 3	Semester 3	Semester 3	Semester 3
Book # 7	Book # 7	Book # 7	Book # 7
Book # 8	Book # 8	Book # 8	Book # 8
Book # 9	Book # 9	Book # 9	Book # 9

Benefits Compound Reading





Compound Benefits in a High School Reading Program

1. College requires strong reading skills. A high school reading program improves reading skills, communication skills, expanded vocabulary, stronger memory skills and helps to organize thoughts, develop arguments, as well as, articulating ideas, better grades and less stress.

2. Both ACT, SAT and AP challenge reading skills. A college prep company cannot replace being an active reader. Only extensive reading will expand your vocabulary, increase your reading skills, comprehension, speed and interpretation.

3. College Admissions will ask about your reading habits. All colleges have their own version of the question: “List some of the titles of the books you have read for pleasure or interest in the past few years.” So, mix your reading up. Read best books or interesting article and magazines and focus some of your reading on your potential career and/or academic interests.

4. The College Interview. If you are applying to a college that requires an in-person or zoom interview you will be asked the “reading question” in some form. They will not be impressed if you fumble in this area or try to fake it.

A college or career bound high school program should include a set of core course and elective. How you arrange these core and elective courses should be dependent on your after high school end game—college or career. **Consider how different high school would feel if you could study your passion and follow your dreams. You can do this with a tailored directed reading program.**

“A book is a dream you hold in your hands”
Neil Gaiman

“A reader lives a thousand lives before he dies...The man who never reads lives only one”
George R.R. Martin

“Reading is essential for those who seek to rise above the ordinary”
Jim Rohn

“We cannot always build a future for our youth,
but we can always build our youth for the future”
Franklin D. Roosevelt



Reading Advantage for Entering a Career

Entering a career requires more than just completing a set of courses in high school. Deep reading in a career field gives you exposure to new vocabulary, new ideas and to be more informed in the career area of your interest. **Deep reading can help bridge the gap on some of the essential career skills lacking in young workers.**

- 1. Critical Thinking:** When you read for understanding you improve your critical thinking. Reading for understanding requires you to know what you are looking for before you start reading the book. Ask yourself questions while you read. Reading should make you think.
- 2. Decision Making.** Deep reading allows you to explore other ideas, thoughts, opinions and helps with your decision making. To illustrate: Mark Twain had a cat that jumped on a hot stove and made the decision, “I will never do that again.” But does the cat know that stoves come in different sizes, shapes, colors? Does the cat know the difference between a hot stove and a cold stove? Does the cat know that a really cold stove can feel hot when you jump on it? Does the cat know that sometimes you have to jump on a hot stove to get where you want to go? No! The cat’s decision making is limited but if the cat could read, he could improve his stove understanding and future decision making through reading.
- 3. Lack of Initiative, Organizing, Persistence, Problem Solving..** All colleges have their own version of the question: “List some of the titles of the books you have read for pleasure or interest in the past few years.” So, mix your reading up. Read best books or interesting article and magazines and focus some of your reading on your potential career and/or academic interests.

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