The Reading Maturity Survey

*The Reading Maturity Survey* was written by Matt Thomas, Ph.D., University of Central Missouri. For more information on this instrument, including permission to copy and use (for free), please contact him at: *mthomas@ucmo.edu* or 660-543-8729. Thanks.
The Reading Maturity Survey

Name/ID: ___________________________ Age: __________________ Date: ________

Directions: Please rate/characterize yourself as a reader on each item. Use the five point scale where one (1) is the lowest and five (5) is the highest.

Section 1

1. I enjoy reading.
   not like me  somewhat like me  a lot like me
   1  2  3  4  5

2. I have a high interest in reading.
   not like me  somewhat like me  a lot like me
   1  2  3  4  5

3. I feel that reading can be exciting.
   not like me  somewhat like me  a lot like me
   1  2  3  4  5

4. Reading can be stimulating.
   not like me  somewhat like me  a lot like me
   1  2  3  4  5

5. Reading is an important part of my life.
   not like me  somewhat like me  a lot like me
   1  2  3  4  5

6. I read frequently.
   not like me  somewhat like me  a lot like me
   1  2  3  4  5

7. I have a wide variety (or breadth) of reading interests.
   not like me  somewhat like me  a lot like me
   1  2  3  4  5

8. I like to read about many different things.
   not like me  somewhat like me  a lot like me
   1  2  3  4  5

9. I read extensively on certain topics (or with depth).
   not like me  somewhat like me  a lot like me
   1  2  3  4  5

10. I enjoy reading to learn a lot about something that interests me.
    not like me  somewhat like me  a lot like me
    1  2  3  4  5
Section 2

1. I feel that I read for valuable reasons.
   not like me  somewhat like me  a lot like me
   1           2             3        4       5

2. One of the reasons that I read is for pleasure.
   not like me  somewhat like me  a lot like me
   1           2             3        4       5

3. One of the reasons I read is to learn more about things that interest me.
   not like me  somewhat like me  a lot like me
   1           2             3        4       5

4. One of the reasons I read is to gain new knowledge.
   not like me  somewhat like me  a lot like me
   1           2             3        4       5

5. One of the reasons I read is to improve my understanding of life.
   not like me  somewhat like me  a lot like me
   1           2             3        4       5

6. One of the reasons I read is to understand others better.
   not like me  somewhat like me  a lot like me
   1           2             3        4       5

7. One of the reasons I read is to understand myself better.
   not like me  somewhat like me  a lot like me
   1           2             3        4       5

8. I try to actively engage myself with what I am reading.
   not like me  somewhat like me  a lot like me
   1           2             3        4       5

9. I read with purpose.
   not like me  somewhat like me  a lot like me
   1           2             3        4       5

10. I read flexibly.
    not like me  somewhat like me  a lot like me
     1          2              3        4       5

Section 3

1. I can read proficiently.
   not like me  somewhat like me  a lot like me
   1           2             3        4       5
2. I understand most of what I read.
   not like me  somewhat like me  a lot like me
   1  2  3  4  5

3. When I read, I feel like I get a good grasp of the literal meaning being presented.
   not like me  somewhat like me  a lot like me
   1  2  3  4  5

4. I am comfortable with my reading ability.
   not like me  somewhat like me  a lot like me
   1  2  3  4  5

5. I feel like I have the ability to see implied meanings in what I read.
   not like me  somewhat like me  a lot like me
   1  2  3  4  5

6. I don’t mind reading out loud.
   not like me  somewhat like me  a lot like me
   1  2  3  4  5

7. I feel like I can “read the lines” efficiently.
   not like me  somewhat like me  a lot like me
   1  2  3  4  5

8. I feel like I can “read between the lines” efficiently.
   not like me  somewhat like me  a lot like me
   1  2  3  4  5

9. I can read fluently.
   not like me  somewhat like me  a lot like me
   1  2  3  4  5

10. My school grades and test scores would indicate that I have good reading comprehension abilities.
    not like me  somewhat like me  a lot like me
    1  2  3  4  5

Section 4

1. While I read something, I often think of other things that I already know about the topic.
   not like me  somewhat like me  a lot like me
   1  2  3  4  5

2. Reading prompts me with new ideas and insights.
   not like me  somewhat like me  a lot like me
   1  2  3  4  5
3. I often make generalizations and personal conclusions about what I have read.
not like me  somewhat like me  a lot like me
1  2  3  4  5

4. Reading helps me make decisions about things.
not like me  somewhat like me  a lot like me
1  2  3  4  5

5. When I read, I combine ideas I already have with ideas that I read to form new personal understandings.
not like me  somewhat like me  a lot like me
1  2  3  4  5

6. I read with an inquiring attitude.
not like me  somewhat like me  a lot like me
1  2  3  4  5

7. I ask myself questions while I am reading.
not like me  somewhat like me  a lot like me
1  2  3  4  5

8. When I evaluate the main idea of what I am reading, I look for supporting points.
not like me  somewhat like me  a lot like me
1  2  3  4  5

9. When I am reading, I often recognize ideas that may have personal or societal value.
not like me  somewhat like me  a lot like me
1  2  3  4  5

10. I construct new ideas from what I read.
not like me  somewhat like me  a lot like me
1  2  3  4  5

Section 5

1. I read intellectually challenging material.
not like me  somewhat like me  a lot like me
1  2  3  4  5

2. I enjoy reading material that goes beyond “easy-reading.”
not like me  somewhat like me  a lot like me
1  2  3  4  5

3. I like to read things that make me think.
not like me  somewhat like me  a lot like me
1  2  3  4  5
4. There are rich ideas in the materials that I read.
   not like me  somewhat like me  a lot like me
   1 2 3 4 5

5. I enjoy reading about things that stimulate my mind.
   not like me  somewhat like me  a lot like me
   1 2 3 4 5

6. I often read materials that are at relatively difficult reading levels.
   not like me  somewhat like me  a lot like me
   1 2 3 4 5

7. I enjoy reading materials that help me better understand other people.
   not like me  somewhat like me  a lot like me
   1 2 3 4 5

8. I often read things that broaden my understanding of the world.
   not like me  somewhat like me  a lot like me
   1 2 3 4 5

9. I am intellectually enriched by most of what I read.
   not like me  somewhat like me  a lot like me
   1 2 3 4 5

10. I enjoy reading materials that teach me things I did not know before.
    not like me  somewhat like me  a lot like me
    1 2 3 4 5

**Section 6**

1. Reading often helps me change my perspective about things.
   not like me  somewhat like me  a lot like me
   1 2 3 4 5

2. Reading often makes me want to make personal changes in my life.
   not like me  somewhat like me  a lot like me
   1 2 3 4 5

3. When I learn something valuable from credible reading sources, I usually apply it to the actions my life.
   not like me  somewhat like me  a lot like me
   1 2 3 4 5

4. Reading can transform my actions.
   not like me  somewhat like me  a lot like me
   1 2 3 4 5
5. Reading can transform my thinking.
not like me  somewhat like me  a lot like me
1  2  3  4  5

6. Reading can transform my values.
not like me  somewhat like me  a lot like me
1  2  3  4  5

7. I can recall instances in which I have been personally transformed from things I have read.
not like me  somewhat like me  a lot like me
1  2  3  4  5

8. Reading makes me carefully consider changes I should make in my life.
not like me  somewhat like me  a lot like me
1  2  3  4  5

9. Reading often causes me to be personally reflective.
not like me  somewhat like me  a lot like me
1  2  3  4  5

10. Some of my character is shaped by what I read.
not like me  somewhat like me  a lot like me
1  2  3  4  5
Reading Maturity Survey
Tabulation Sheet

Name/ID: ___________________________

Tabulations

Section 1: Interest in Reading
Sum Score: __________

Section 2: Purposes for Reading
Sum Score: __________

Section 3: The Recognition and Reconstruction of Meaning
Sum Score: __________

Section 4: Reaction To and Use of Ideas to Apprehend (Higher-Order Literacy)
Sum Score: __________

Section 5: Kinds of Materials Read
Sum Score: __________

Section 6: Personal Adjustment to Reading/Transformational Reading
Sum Score: __________

Total of Sum Scores: __________/60 =
TOTAL READING MATURITY SCORE ____________

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