

# OULUN KAUPUNGIN KIRJALLISUUSDIPLOMI

Secondary school reading diploma notebook



Name:

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# OULUN KAUPUNGIN KIRJALLISUUSDIPLOMI

It is possible to complete a reading diploma in the schools of Oulu. This is optional, but it is a great opportunity to show engagement with reading. The willingness to complete the diploma is to be discussed with the teacher.

Diverse reading improves reading skills, study skills and increases individual's vocabulary. Reading fiction is particularly good in increasing your reading skills. Good reading skills can only be achieved by reading in multitude.

To assist in the completion of secondary school reading diploma, a **Diplomilukija**-application has been created. The book lists and exercises can be found there. The app can be downloaded for free from the AppStore or Play-store.

Instructions for teachers can be found from **[www.kirjastoreitti.fi](http://www.kirjastoreitti.fi)**.

## Completing the secondary school reading diploma

Every secondary school year has its own reading diploma, during which 6 books are to be read. In OIS reading diploma you choose three books from the list of books in Finnish and three books in English. The book lists and the exercises can be found from the Kirjastoreitti webpage or the Diplomilukija-app.

Choose the books from the eleven categories so that only one book from each category is present in each year's reading diploma. You can also choose some other book, as long as it fits some of the categories. Read and enjoy the stories!

Information about the books read is to be marked down to a notebook, or save them to the Diplomilukija-app. Talk to your teacher about the method with which the exercises related to the book are to be completed. Different exercise options can be found from the Kirjastoreitti-webpage or the app. Once you have read all six books and completed the exercises, you will be granted a reading diploma from your teacher.

Once you have completed the reading diploma for each academic year of secondary school and read total of 18 books, you will receive the secondary school reading diploma.

The books to be read for the diploma can be borrowed from the city library of Oulu and any other libraries with the books available. You can search for the books online from the OUTI-web library. It is free to reserve and order the books to the library in this way! Some books can also be found from school libraries.

All material related to the reading diploma can be found from the Kirjastoreitti website of the Oulu City Library **[www.kirjastoreitti.fi](http://www.kirjastoreitti.fi)**.

## Books I have read at 7th grade

Book category	The name of the author and the book	Work approved

The finishing date and the teacher's signature:

\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

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## Congratulations!

You have now completed the seventh grade reading diploma! You are granted a reading diploma from your teacher.

## Books I have read at 8th grade

Book group	The name of the author and the book	Work approved

The finishing date and the teacher's signature:

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## Congratulations!

You have now completed the seventh grade reading diploma!  
You are granted a reading diploma from your teacher.

## Books I have read at 9th grade

Book group	The name of the author and the book	Work approved

The finishing date and the teacher's signature:

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## Congratulations!

You have now completed the seventh grade reading diploma!  
You are granted a reading diploma from your teacher.

## **Tasks for the secondary school reading diploma**

**Tasks for the Secondary school reading diploma. You can complete these tasks on paper or digitally. Aim to use one task only once during your completion of the reading diploma. Agree with your teacher how you complete the diploma.**

### **Book characters**

- 1.** Introduce the characters of the book. Briefly introduce who they are and how they are linked to the plot.
- 2.** Write a sequel to your book in which you tell what happens to the characters later on.
- 3.** Which character would you like to be? Justify your decision. Build up a description of your character in writing or with the help of a mind map and drawing.
- 4.** Create a new supporting character for the book. Explain what kind of person they are and what kind of relationships they have with other characters in the book. When and where does the main character meet your supporting character for the first time.
- 5.** Choose a character from the book and write a letter to them. Make comments about things which happen to the character. You can advise, encourage, ask, wonder or judge them.
- 6.** Write a monologue for the main character as if you were that character. Write about "your" life and hopes.
- 7.** Write a diary entry about one day in the life of the main or of a supporting character.
- 8.** Create a dialogue in which two of the characters from the book discuss with each other at the end of the story. The discussion should be connected to the plot of the book.
- 9.** Choose a character from the book who has a stereotypical role (e.g. hero, helper, problem solver, villain). How has the author emphasized the stereotype of the character (clothes, behaviour, language, etc.)?
- 10.** Write a diary of a few important days of a character from the book. You can use language which suits the character such as slang or a dialect.
- 11.** You are a reporter who is interviewing a character from the book. Write your questions and the characters answers as a dialogue. Create headline for your interview. You can also add pictures.
- 12.** List the conflicts and problems which the main or a supporting character faces in their life. Briefly write how the character overcome these issues.

**13.** Make a sociogram about the book: mark the main character(s) in the middle of it and around him/her/them the most important side characters. You can use different kinds of symbols (such as arrows, lightning or hearts) to describe the relationships between the characters.

## **Book plot and events**

**14.** Write a summary about the events in the book. Start by telling who the book is about and then explain the plot of the book in chronological order. Also tell about the ending of the book. You can also do this by using an electronic format of your choice.

**15.** Come up with and write a new (justified) ending to the book.

**16.** Take notes about the parts of the book you find funny, sad, difficult to understand, scary, annoying or even unnecessary.

**17.** Draw a plot graph about the course of the events in the book. Mark on the graph the most important events and turning points and explain them briefly. You can also draw events.

**18.** Draw a map of the most important places/settings of the book. For each place, write what happens there. Explain what kind of a role the places have in the course of events and in the lives of the characters.

**19.** Write a news article for a newspaper about an event or detail in the book. Use a style appropriate to the news. Remember the structure of the news (=the most important things first, then background information) and news questions (what, where, when, who, for what reason, with what consequences). Write a catchy title.

**20.** Think about the themes, ideas and leading thoughts in the book you have read. Can these be condensed into a single sentence? How did you come to this sentence? Can you use a phrase you have heard somewhere before, such as song lyrics or a famous quote, as long as you explain how it is related to the central message of the book.

**21.** Pick parts in the book you thought worked as flashbacks or foreshadowing events. What was their significance with regards to the events of the book progressing? How has the author achieved this result (e.g. dreams, memory, mentioning the time)?



## **Book and author**

- 22.** Come up with 10 questions about the book you have read. The answers to these questions must be found from the book.
- 23.** Write a presentation for the book. What was good about the book and what was bad? Who would you recommend the book for?
- 24.** What do you think is the most important sentence in the book? Write it down and justify your decision as to its importance.
- 25.** Create a tag cloud about the characters, themes and events of the book. Come up with as many words as possible. You can draw it yourself or use a software of your choice.
- 26.** Create a digital poem about the book you have read. Alternatively, you can record a video about the book.
- 27.** Draw a mind map or a timeline about the book. You can also use a software.
- 28.** Write a review for the book. Include the facts of the book (name, genre and release year). Remember the structure of a review: introduction, general assesment, individual quotes and thoughts about the details of the book, own opinion, analysis on the relevance of the book with contrast to books similar kind and possibly to the other books of the author or a movie made based on the book. Remember to divide your review to passages.
- 29.** Describe the poem you have read as a whole. Focus on its themes, style, language and meaning.
- 30.** Create a deeper analysis on at least three poems in your chosen work. Who is the speaker of the poems? Is the poem descriptive or narrative (tells a story)? What is the speaker of the poem? Is the poem traditional or modern? Is it a concrete poem? What metaphors does the poem use? What was touching about the poem? Choose examples of e.g. the language and imagery of the poem.
- 31.** Think about the title of the work. Why was the title chosen? What does it refer to? Is it thematic? Find parts of the book where the title appears and discuss them. Rename the book and justify your choice of a name based on the theme of the book.
- 32.** Write a letter for the author of the book. You can ask about the characters and their relationships and problems, or about the setting and plot of the book. What would you like to know about the author?



**33.** Write a short description about the author. Find information about him/her and their work. Create a logical text with your own words. Cite your sources.

**34.** Familiarize yourself with an author of a science book and create an introduction about him/her. Why are they an expert qualified to write such a book?

## **Book and movie**

**35.** Compare a book and a movie based on it. Which one did you think was better and why? Answer the questions with a logical text.

**36.** Choose parts where the script of the movie followed the book exactly and where it departed from the storyline. In your opinion, why did the director of the movie choose to do this?

**37.** In what ways are the things described in the book portrayed in the movie? E.g. costumes, locations and characters. Did the movie reflect your own idea of the story? In your opinion, why did the director of the movie choose to do this?

## **Creative tasks**

**38.** Cut pictures out of the magazines that relate to the book you have read. Create a collage of the pictures. Write descriptions of the pictures which explain how the pictures are associated with the characters and events of the book.

**39.** Create a collage of pictures which introduce the protagonist of the book and his/her home and environment, and potential personal items. Use pictures cut from magazines and write suitable descriptions.

**40.** Create an advertisement, trailer or promotional poster for the book. You can create this on paper or use a software of your choice.

**41.** Design and create a picture or pictures that would suit as artwork for the book. Create describing texts for the pictures. You can also use quotations from the book as your descriptions.

**42.** Create a new covers for the book: a front cover with a picture and an interesting text for the back cover, which make the reader want to read this book.

**43.** Illustrate a poem you have read in the book.

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- 44.** Create a poem or a song about the work or individual story you have read.
- 45.** Turn a scene in the book into a poem or a rap lyric. The poem can be traditional (verses, stanzas, rhymes) or modern. Name your poem or lyrics.
- 46.** Create a comic about some chain of events in the book. You may have five to eight panels in your comic. Use a variety of sizes and angles, and use language typical for comic books, utilizing different kinds of speech bubbles, captions, and sound effects. Add to your comics the page numbers where the scene is from. If you wish, you may also use a software.
- 47.** Create a crossword puzzle of 20-30 words, with the clues relating to the book you have read. The word in the middle should be some central word found in the book, such as the name of the book or its protagonist. Solve the crossword puzzle.
- 48.** Do something instructed in the book, e.g. knit, craft, bake, do your make up or hair etc.
- 49.** Create a public or private reading blog, where you talk about your experiences with the reading diploma and the books you've read. Come up with a good name for your blog and design a fitting layout.
- 50.** Come up with your own exercise and agree with the teacher about how to do it.