

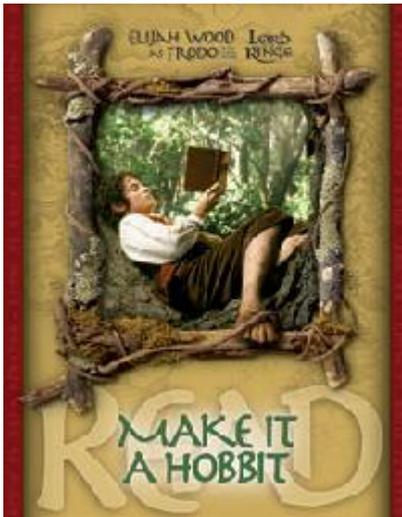


ZOOM in on america

A publication of the U.S. Missions to Poland and Hungary

Issue 18

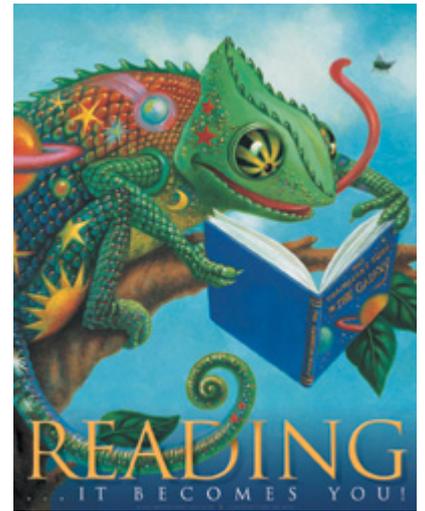
BOOKS AND LIBRARIES



Libraries bring you the world. Did you know that there are more than 117,000 libraries in the United States? In addition to public libraries in almost every community, there are thousands of libraries in schools, colleges and universities, hospitals, law firms, businesses, the armed forces and more! Because libraries offer free access to all, they bring opportunity to all!

What were the 10 most frequently re-read books in America's libraries?

There are no data available on this question, but the American Library Association put the question to a panel, a group of librarians and editors with decades of experience working



with books in libraries and with public library users coast-to-coast. The books on the list were not ranked and were based on the panelists' professional judgment and knowledge of reading and publishing habits. The Top 10 Most Re-Read Books List created in July 2004 by the panel:

- J.R.R. Tolkien - The Lord of the Rings
- Charles Dickens - A Christmas Carol
- Harper Lee - To Kill a Mockingbird
- Shakespeare's collected works
- F. Scott Fitzgerald - The Great Gatsby
- Jane Austen - Pride and Prejudice
- J.K. Rowling - Harry Potter series
- Laura Ingalls Wilder - Little House on the Prairie series
- A.A. Milne - Winnie-the-Pooh
- Alice Walker - The Color Purple

YOU ARE WHAT
~~YOU EAT~~
READ!

What are the most popular books checked out of libraries?

The Library Journal (LJ) publishes LJ's Bestsellers: The Books Most Borrowed in U.S. Libraries, for both fiction and nonfiction book titles. To see the list, visit: www.libraryjournal.com/index.asp?layout=bestsellersList

Text is based on the American Library Association's (ALA) web site at www.ala.org. All images are also from the ALA web site, and can be reprinted and distributed for non-commercial and educational purposes only, and not for sale. All other rights reserved.



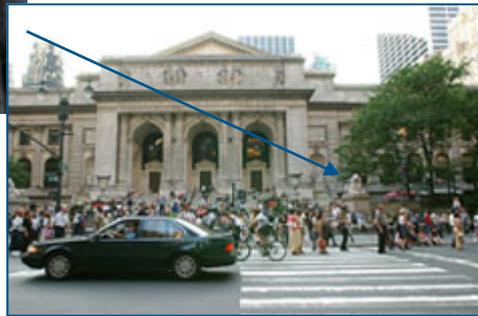
■ The Library Guarded by Two Lions



The New York Public Library is one of the greatest and most prestigious libraries of the United States. It is a complex institution, offering numerous research collections for scholars and students on different subjects, as well as operating a network of circulating libraries (organized as The Branch Libraries) for local communities. Learn more about the Library at www.nypl.org.

It also maintains digital collections, which include the Digital Gallery. Available at <http://digitalgallery.nypl.org>.

Left: A conservation technician steam cleans the lion named "Patience," on the steps of the New York Public Library. (© AP Photo/Gregory Bull)



This photo shows the Library on Fifth Avenue at a rare moment: pedestrians try to navigate their way home as transportation stopped due to a massive blackout that hit New York on August 14, 2003. (© AP Photo/Frank Franklin II)

The two famous **marble lions** that proudly guard the Library have been admired and loved by New Yorkers and visitors from all over the world since the Library was opened in 1911. They are so popular that the Library adopted them as its mascots. One of them even appeared in the movie *The Wiz*.

Their nicknames have changed over the decades. Fiorella H. LaGuardia, the mayor of New York City between 1934 and 1945, named them Patience and Fortitude for the qualities he felt New Yorkers would need to survive the economic depression of the 1930s.

TeenLink and On-Lion for Kids

Do you want to learn about what's happening in New York, get homework help, download free videos, music and e-books, or check out the booklist for teens? Visit **TeenLink** at <http://teenlink.nypl.org/>. For kids, the **On-Lion for Kids** web site offers study help, games, and information on a wide variety of topics like science, sports, arts, people, New York, and many more at <http://kids.nypl.org>.

Since 1987, the real Winnie-the-Pooh and his best friends: Eeyore, Piglet, Kanga, and Tigger, have been living in the Central Children's Room at the Donnell Library Center, part of The New York Public Library.

Christopher Robin Milne, the son of A.A. Milne, received the small stuffed bear on his first birthday. Later, other stuffed animals joined Christopher and Pooh, and they became the characters of wonderful stories in A.A. Milne's books.

Every year, thousands of children visit them in the Library.

Learn more about their story at www.nypl.org/branch/central/dlc/dch/pooh/winnie.html

Winnie-the-Pooh and Friends Live Here



Clockwise from left are Kanga, Winnie-the-Pooh, Eeyore, Piglet and Tigger. (© AP Photo/Don Hamerman, New York Public Library)

AMERICAN CORNERS **A C H** IN HUNGARY

What is an American Corner?

American Corners are partnerships between the U.S. Embassy and a local host institution, e. g. a library or a cultural center. They provide access to current and reliable information on the United States via book, magazine and video collections; the Internet; and through a variety of programs such as public readings, film showings, lectures, workshops, exhibits, digital video conferences (DVCs), etc. Its collections and programs are open and free to everybody.

The 3 American Corners in Hungary are in Debrecen, Pécs and Veszprém. See contact information below!

What Can American Corners Offer to You?

- **Books, videos, magazines and DVDs** on the United States
- **Educational advising:** information about U.S. higher education (in Pécs and Veszprém);
- **Movie nights:** thematic series of film showings;
- **Presentations** by American experts. Some topics of past presentations: U.S. higher education; National Parks; Immigrant New York; Summer Jobs in the U.S.; Teaching English; Writing Class; and many more;
- **Performances** by American musicians and artists;
- **Programs** where you can meet visiting American artists, educators, and other interesting people;
- **Digital video conferences** (DVCs): live video discussions with experts at other locations;
- **Internet access;** and
- **English Conversation Club** (in Veszprém).

Former Ambassador G. Walker (left) and Minister Magyar open the Veszprém Corner in 2005.

Former Ambassador Walker (right) and C. Beltran of the Embassy at the opening of the Pécs Corner in 2004. Below: A presentation at the Pécs Corner.



Ambassador April Foley (middle), Prof. Abádi-Nagy (left) and Mayor Kósa at the opening of the Debrecen Corner in 2006.



Theatrical performance by Sue Ott Rowlands (above), and meeting with her (below) at the Debrecen Corner (2006).



Visit an American Corner Near You!

Debrecen: Piac u. 77, e-mail: debrecen@americancorner.hu

Pécs: International House, Mária u. 9, e-mail: pecs@americancorner.hu

Veszprém: Komakút tér 3, e-mail: americancorner@ekmk.hu

Check them on the web at <http://americancorner.hu/>

Activity Page

Win a Prize!

To win a prize answer this question:

What are the names of the lions guarding the New York Public Library?

Send your answer to zoom@usembassy.hu
Please give your name and address.

Deadline:
December 15, 2006

Good Luck!

ZOOM
in on america

Zoom is available online at

<http://www.usembassy.hu/zoom.html>

Please send comments and requests for subscription to:
zoom@usembassy.hu

Regional English Language Office
rel@mail@usembassy.hu

Information Resource Center
infousa@usembassy.hu

Mailing address:
U.S. Embassy
Public Affairs Section
1054 Budapest
Szabadság tér 12.

Exercise 1

Match the idioms with the explanation of their meaning. They all contain the word 'book'.

(a) balance the books, (b) black book, (c) booked up, (d) by the book, (e) closed book, (f) close the books, (g) cook the books, (h) crack a book, (i) hit the books, (j) in one's book, (k) judge a book by its cover, (l) keep books, (m) know like a book, (n) nose in a book, (o) one for the books, (p) open book, (r) read one like a book, (s) take a leaf out of someone's book, (t) talking book, (u) throw the book at, (v) wrote the book on

Meanings:

1. a book recorded by voice on tape for blind persons
2. something or someone that can be readily examined or understood
3. study or prepare for school
4. a list of persons or things that are out of favor
5. strictly according to the rules
6. a puzzle, mystery, secret, or something not known or understood
7. stop financial transactions, stop taking orders
8. be extremely familiar with, understand perfectly
9. falsify a company's financial records

10. settle an account by saying what needs to be paid
11. open a book to study or read
12. according to one's opinion or the way of thinking
13. keep records of money earned and spent
14. know almost everything about something
15. rely on outward appearances
16. busy interest in reading
17. understand somebody completely, know what he will think or do at any time
18. very unusual, something extraordinary
19. imitate or follow somebody's example
20. give the most severe penalty to someone for breaking the law or rules
21. having no tickets, rooms, etc. left

Exercise 2

Supply the missing idiomatic expressions from exercise 1 in the sentences below. Make all other necessary changes.

1. I'm not on speaking terms with Jim these days. He's been in my
2. Chemistry was a for me when I was at school and I still don't understand it.
3. He's lucky. He passed this exam without
4. Because it was the third time he was caught drink-driving, the judge
5. Linda on unlucky relationships. She's been dating wrong men all the time.
6. We've been close friends and each other

Find correct answers at: http://www.usembassy.hu/quiz_key.html

■ Glossary

(with page numbers where the words appear)

armed forces - military, naval and air forces (1)

blackout - failure of the electric power supply (2)

coast-to-coast - throughout the United States (literally: from the Atlantic Ocean to the Pacific Ocean) (1)

depression - (here) a reduced business activity and high unemployment (2)

fortitude - firm and lasting courage in bearing trouble, pain, etc. (2)

mascot - a person or object thought to bring good luck (2)

mayor - elected head of a city or town (2)

prestigious - respected, acknowledged (2)

to rank - to put in an order by value (1)

scholar - a person with great knowledge of a subject (2)

■ In the Library

Librarian and reference specialist

Library card: issued for members of the library

Overdue fee: charged for late return of books

Circulating or lending library: documents can be borrowed from the library

Circulating collection: documents can be taken out - **Reference collection:** stays in the library, i.e. in the reading or reference room

Check out or borrow and return books

Fiction: novels, short stories, ect.

Nonfiction: books about science, arts, etc.

Periodicals: that are published at regular intervals: magazines, newspapers, journals, yearbooks, etc.

Reference books: encyclopedias, dictionaries, and handbooks

CD-ROM (CD Read-Only-Memory): you can read and print the information but cannot modify the data on the CD.

Catalogue: list of documents in a special order

OPAC: online public access catalog