How to English.
with Gav & Em

LESSON CODE: HTE-T112 • CEFR B1+ INTERMEDIATE

Lesson 12: Page-Turners & Graphic Novels

Recommend gripping books, describe plot twists without spoilers, and pitch stories with stress-marked read-aloud scripts.

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Paperback Thriller or Graphic Novel Artwork?

NOTTINGHAM, UK

Andre (16)

Tears through fifty pages of a time-travel thriller on a park bench after school.

EDINBURGH, UK

Hana & Toby (17)

Debate sci-fi graphic novel cliffhangers in the library without giving away spoilers.

LEEDS, UK

Kavya, Mateo & Ruby

Host an after-school book club roundtable trading 60-second spoiler-free reviews.

Andre’s Park Bench Mystery

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CHARACTER PROFILE

Andre, 16 — Nottingham

Used to see books only as school homework until his sister handed him a fast-paced time-travel thriller.

Target Skill: Describing how a story hooks the reader

Pronunciation Focus: Expressive stress on plot surprises

Warm-Up: Where is your favourite quiet spot to read?

STEP 2 • MONOLOGUE

Read Aloud: Andre’s Page-Turner

🔊 BOLD = STRESS • / = PAUSE

SPEAKER: ANDRE (EXPRESSIVE, ENGAGING PACE)

“I used to think reading was just **home**work for English class, / until my older sister lent me a **time**-travel thriller. / The opening chapter hooked me **in**stantly! / Every afternoon, I head to the **park** bench / and tear through fifty **pa**ges before dinner. / There’s a massive plot **twist** halfway through / that completely caught me off **guard**.”

Hana & Toby’s Graphic Novel Debate

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CHARACTER PROFILES

Hana & Toby, 17 — Edinburgh

Library regulars comparing sci-fi graphic novel volumes—while Toby tries hard to dodge spoilers for the ending.

Target Skill: Recommending series & keeping secrets

Pronunciation Focus: Warning intonation (“Whoa, **no** spoilers!”)

Warm-Up: Do you prefer text novels, manga, or graphic novels?



STEP 2B • PAIR DIALOGUE

Read Aloud: No Spoilers Allowed

ROLE A: HANA • ROLE B: TOBY

HANA (EXCITED & MYSTERIOUS)

"You **need** to borrow Volume Two as soon as I finish it! / The artwork is in**cred**ible, and the ending leaves you on a total **cliff**hanger."

"My **lips** are sealed! / Just read it tonight so we can **talk** about it tomorrow at lunch."

TOBY (CURIOUS & CAUTIOUS)

"Whoa, **no** spoilers! I'm only on chapter **three**. / Tell me this, though—does the main **char**acter finally trust her rival?"

How to Talk About Books & Plots

Natural Phrase	Meaning	Teen Example
Page-turner	An exciting book you cannot stop reading	“That mystery novel is a real page-turner.”
Tear through	Read something rapidly with excitement	“She tore through the trilogy in four days.”
Plot twist	An unexpected turn in a story	“Nobody saw that final plot twist coming!”
Cliffhanger	A dramatic, unresolved ending	“Volume Two ends on a brutal cliffhanger.”
My lips are sealed	Promise not to reveal a spoiler or secret	“I won’t spoil the ending—my lips are sealed.”

STEP 4 • PRODUCTION ACTIVITY

Your Turn: 1-Minute Book Trailer Pitch

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Host a Spoiler-Free Book Club Roundtable

Team up in groups of three like Kavya, Mateo, and Ruby. Pitch your top read in 60 seconds:

1. Setup & Setting: Introduce the hero, world, and central conflict quickly.

2. The Hook: Explain what makes it a page-turner (artwork, twists, or humour).

3. Cliffhanger Question: Leave classmates curious while keeping your lips sealed!



Great Review! Ready for Lesson 13?

Use the HTE-T112 worksheet for the quick check and written follow-up.

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