## Examples Writing for Module C

The 'texts' listed in the Module C statement are also styles of writing or perhaps even the purpose of the text. The best way to determine how the noun (discursive, imaginative, informative or persuasive) should be applied by you is to consider it in use, within the context of a question. Until then, what we do have to guide your writing for Module $C$ is the following definitions from the NESA glossary and what we can do is explore examples of writing in the various 'types'. It is worth noting that overlap does exist. For example, a discursive response can also have a persuasive purpose. What's important, as usual, will be answering the question, establishing voice and using the elements of language and mechanic of writing effectively to convey your message. Read these samples and identify features of language and grammar employed in each writing type. Then complete the reflection on page 4.

packed her things and parted, the back cover swinging closed like a taxicab door. Farewell, friend. See you on the shelf.

If you've ever felt weird for considering fictional characters your friends or fictional places your home, science says you no longer have to. A new body of research is emerging to explain how books have such a powerful emotional pull on us, and the answer du jour is surprising-when we step into a fictional world, we treat the experiences as if they were real.

Adding to the endless list of reading benefits is this:
Reading fiction literally makes you more empathetic in real life.

Not all fiction is created equal, though—and reading a single chapter of Harry Potter isn't an instant emotion-enhancer.
Here are a few key caveats from the nerdy scientists trying to figure out why reading rules.

## Rule \#1: The story has to "take you somewhere."

How many times have you heard someone declare that a good book "transports" you? That immersive power that allows readers to happily inhabit other people,
attracted him irresistibly.

He went over to the chair, slowly held out his hand, and touched the book. In that moment something inside him went click!, as though a trap had shut. Bastian had a vague feeling that touching the book had started something irrevocable, which would now take its course.

He picked up the book and examined it from all sides. ...

Examining the binding more closely, he discovered two snakes on it, one light and one dark. They were biting each other's tail, so forming an oval. And inside the oval, in strangely intricate letters, he saw the title: The Neverending Story.

Human passions have mysterious ways, in children as well as grown-ups. ... In short, there are as many different passions as there are people.

Bastian Balthazar Bux's passion was books.

If you have never spent whole afternoons with burning ears and rumpled hair, forgetting the world around you over a book, forgetting cold and hunger...

If you have never read secretly under the bedclothes with a
traveled backward to the second grade, but it's one of the easiest ways to increase speed. If you don't want to use your finger, hold a pen or pencil under each line of text to keep your eyes focused.

Aim to move the pointer faster and faster with each line. You'll be forced to group words together in order to keep up.

Regression, or rereading text you've already read, accounts for up to 30 percent of the average reader's reading time. Using a pointer should help you break the habit, but just being aware of how much time it can waste will also help.

Subvocalization is a fancy term for saying words in your head (or even under your breath) while you read them. And while researchers have found it's not possible to completely eliminate the habit, it is possible to minimize it. Chewing gum or listening to (wordless) music can distract you from reading aloud in your head. To prove to yourself that silencing your inner voice is possible, try saying "one, two, three" aloud while you read in your head. You'll be surprised how much you can still comprehend.

In order to do this, you've got to fully engage in the text.
written word. You may already be familiar with recent findings that suggest children as young as six months who read books with their parents several times a week show stronger literacy skills four years later, score higher on intelligence tests, and land better jobs than nonreaders.
(Check out these 8 simple tricks to teach your kids to love reading.)

But recent research argues that reading may be just as important in adulthood. When practiced over a lifetime, reading and language-acquisition skills can support healthy brain functioning in big ways. Simply put: Word power increases brain power.
(Here are 7 more morning brain boosters to do before work.)

To understand why and what each of us can do to get the most out of our words, start by asking the same question the Yale team did: What is it about reading books in particular that boosts our brain power whereas reading newspapers and magazines doesn't? For one, the researchers posit, chapter books encourage "deep reading." Unlike, say, skimming a page of headlines, reading a
places, and points of view for hours at a time is precisely what a team of researchers in the Netherlands credit for the results of a 2013 study in which students asked to read an Arthur Conan Doyle mystery showed a marked increase in empathy one week later, while students tasked with reading a sampling of news articles showed a decline.

Interestingly, several fiction readers who reported that they did not feel "highly transported" by the story also showed a decline in empathy afterward. The takeaway: "A reader has to become fully transported into the story to change as a consequence of reading," the team wrote. "When readers disengage from what they read, they possibly become more selfcentered and selfish in order to protect the sense of self in relation to others."

In other words, you have to like what you read to reap the social benefits. Anything less, and you'll just feel grumpy.

## Rule \#2: One chapter isn't enough

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flashlight, because your father or mother or some other wellmeaning person has switched off the lamp on the plausible ground that it was time to sleep because you had to get up so early...

If you have never wept bitter tears because a wonderful story has come to an end and you must take your leave of the characters with whom you have shared so many adventures, whom you have loved and admired, for whom you have hoped and feared, and without whose company life seems empty and meaningless...

If such things have not been part of your own experience, you probably won't understand what Bastian did next.

Staring at the title of the book, he turned hot and cold, cold and hot. Here was just what he had dreamed of, what he had longed for ever since the passion for books had taken hold of him: A story that never ended! The book of books! He had to have this book -- at any price.

What do you hope to get out of it? Why do you want to learn the material in the first place? If whatever you're reading isn't something you're fully committed to, skip it. A wandering mind will lead to slower reading times.

Apps like Spreeder, which utilize rapid serial visualization presentation (RSVP), speed up your reading by removing the variable of the time it takes your eyes to move across a page. Most of these apps accomplish this by flashing one or two words on the screen at once, quickly. You can set the app to the number of words per minute you'd like to get through and adjust that number as needed.
book (of any genre) forces your brain to think critically and make connections from one chapter to another, and to the outside world. When you make connections, so does your brain, literally forging new pathways between regions in all four lobes and both hemispheres. Over time, these neural networks can promote quicker thinking and may provide a greater defense against the worst effects of cognitive decay.

Secondly, reading books, especially fiction, has been shown to increase empathy and emotional intelligence. One 2013 study found that participants who read just the first part or chapter of a story showed a noticeable increase in empathy one week later, while news readers showed a decrease. These findings may sound trivial, but they're not; developing social tools such as empathy and emotional intelligence can lead to more (and more positive) human interaction, which in turn can lower stress levels-both of which are proved to help you live longer and healthier.

## Reflections..

Assess the variables in these text types in relation to language choices, voice and purpose.

