

Subject: Language Arts

Level: 5 Lesson No. 1-24

Introduction:

The first six weeks of the Level 5 course involve reading and writing! You will learn more about John A. Widstoe and about Dr. Benjamin Carson. You will also write two biographical essays and ten essays on Dr. Carson's Top 10 Rules for Success. Let's get started!

Lesson 1 – The Reading Club

A - Read about the John A. Widstoe Reading Club below.

B – Choose a book to read and read your 30 minutes.

[The John A. Widstoe Reading Club](#)

The John A. Widstoe Reading Club is based on a quote by Elder Widstoe given at April General Conference in 1939. It requires its members to work up to reading 30 minutes a day and then maintain that practice (habit) throughout their school experience, and, hopefully, their lives.

Lesson 2 - Learn about John A. Widstoe.

A - Read each of the articles cited below. Take notes.

[Who Is John A. Widstoe?](#)



[Latter-day Apostle](#)
[Educator](#)
[Scientist](#)
[Example for Youth](#)

About John A. Widstoe:

<https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org/church/news/john-a-widstoe-new-monument-honors-a-legacy-of-education?lang=eng>

More about John A. Widstoe

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/John_A._Widstoe

HINT: On the Left side there is the option of getting a printable or a downloadable version of the article. One or the other of these is recommended.

Or, just read through the article online.

Lesson 3 – Learn more about John A. Widstoe and the Reading Club.

A – Read the information below.



Elder Widstoe at the Library.

The John A. Widstoe Reading Club is based on the following quote by Elder Widstoe, given in a General Conference address, April, 1939.

It can be found in the Conference Report, page 21.

“The reading habit is most valuable in life. I mean by that the practice of using a little time, say half an hour a day, in the systematic reading of worthwhile literature. The mind is opened to precious fields of thought; the achievements of the ages become ours; even the future takes form. As the mind and spirit are fed by well chosen reading, comfort, peace and understanding come to the soul. Those who have not tried it, have missed a keen and easily accessible joy. Moreover a person who engages in such a regular daily reading, if only a few minutes a day, in the course of a few years becomes a learned man. But it must be a regular daily habit. ”

... Some of the best educated men that I have ever met have never been to college but have acquired the habit of daily reading of good books for a few minutes a day.”

Ascent Advantage Academy encourages its students to work-up to reading 30 minutes a day in topics of interest to them. Regular school work, especially reading of textbooks, does NOT count toward the 30 minutes of Widstoe Book Club Reading.

Prizes are given periodically for those who reach milestones in their reading. For example, when a student has read 500 pages or later, a 1,000, or 5,000 or 25 books, 100 books, etc. he/she is duly recognized for his/her achievement.

In order to recognize such an achievement, records must be kept. We ask that such a record be kept in a separate Reading Journal (Composition Book). The record should look like the one below.

Date: _____

Title _____

Author _____

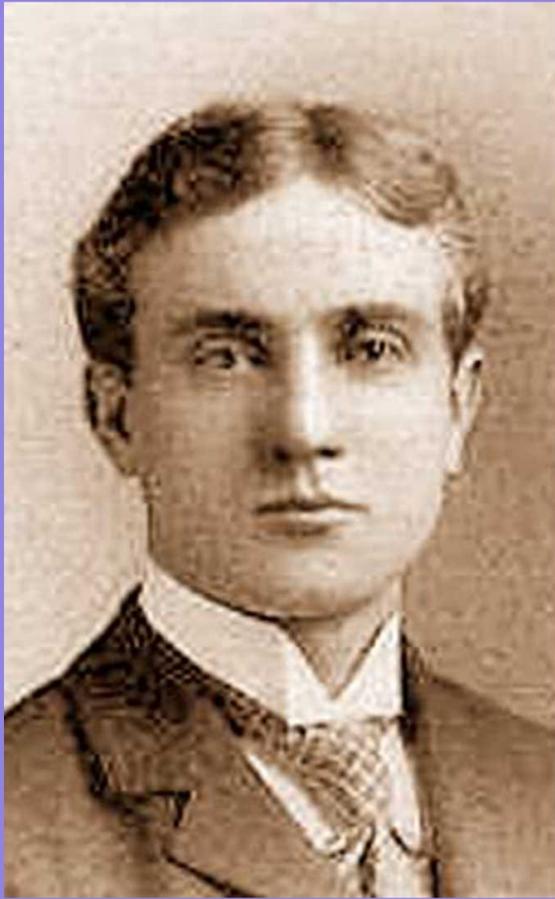
Date Published _____ No. of Pages _____

Source of Book or Article – Internet – Library or _____

Review of the Reading: _____

Write as many lines as it takes for you to tell the story or the main points. Include why you did or didn't like it, and what you learned from reading it.

A Final Quote from Elder Widstoe



“Happiness in life is only obtained by having a pure heart, a clear conscience; and fearing the Lord and keeping his commandments; also as I realize that happiness in old age consists of reviewing a life devoid from great sins; the gratification of noble desires manfully carried out.”

- John A. Widstoe, *17 Resolutions for Life*, January 2, 1891

See <http://dailymormonthoughts.com>

B – For Lesson 3 – Acquire a Composition book in which to keep your Book Reading Log.

Lesson 4 – Biographical Essay 1 - Organization

A – From your notes organize a biographical essay on John A. Widstoe.

Use mindmapping or another technique to organize your information.

Turn this into your instructor for comment or run it by your parent for suggestions for improvement.

Lesson 5 – Write Biographical Essay 1

Lesson 6 – Notetaking from a Lecture

Read the following article by Mrs. K. on How to Take Notes.

How to Take Notes Mrs. K.

There are numerous ways that one can take notes. However, there are some that are more effective than others. The one I have found to be most effective is expounded upon in this article.

First, you will want a bound notebook, not loose papers in a binder. A bound notebook means that the notes will stay together, in one place – a very good idea.

Second, take notes on one side of the paper, that is on the right or the left of a page. Fold the page vertically and limit your note taking to the left side. WHY? Well, if you write your notes during a lecture on the one side, after the lecture is over, you can rewrite them more legibly on the right side, AND you can include bits and pieces that you may remember from the lecture, but could not write down at the time of the lecture.

Third, use every other line on the page. This way, it will be easy to fill-in thoughts and items you remember after the lecture is over.

Fourth, use a shorthand method, if possible, or make one up. Using consonants only sometimes works. Example: thr ws brd n wndw. Translation: There was a bird in the window. Most teachers lecture on one particular topic at a time. Use a capital letter every time the teacher refers to that particular topic.

Fifth, use an outline system. IF you are lucky, your instructor will have organized his or her lecture reasonably well enough that you can discern an outline in the presentation. Feel free in your notes to use numbers and letters as in an outline. For example, if I were lecturing on the types or uses of nouns, you might title the notes: Types or Uses of Nouns. Then, put down

Noun Uses

- 1 - Subjects
What/who S is about
- 2 – Objects - Direct
Who or what is acted upon
- 3 – Predicate Nominatives
Follows linking verb in the P
- 4 – Indirect Objects.....

If I were lecturing on types of nouns:

NOUN TYPES

- A – Concrete – touch
- B – Abstract – can't touch
- C – Collective – team, school, herd
- D – Proper – specific name
- E – Common – generic.....

Sixth, rewrite your notes as soon after the lecture as possible. Your mind will fill-in what you didn't have time to write and therefore, your rewritten notes will be more complete.

Seventh, don't be afraid to ask for clarification or to fill holes. Sometimes, when we write notes, our notes don't make sense to us. It's perfectly OK to ask the instructor for help. This is also true if you just couldn't get everything down. Ask for help.

Eighth, sometimes you can record an instructor's lecture. ALWAYS ASK FIRST. This is only common courtesy. Most will say, "Yes." Others will say, "No!" If your answer is in the negative, make friends with some of the other students in your class and make a habit of comparing your notes. This way, you all will benefit and you all will have complete notes.

Lastly, what about video lectures? If it is the kind you can rewind or stop and play, you're in luck. You can get full and complete notes. However, sometimes this is not the case and you get only one shot at it. IF this is the case, make sure you are not interrupted during the video. Second, take notes as directed above, and rewrite them as soon as possible. Third, if possible, find someone else who has listened to the lecture and compare notes.

Follow the steps given above, and you will succeed at taking notes.

Lesson 7 - Note Taking Practice 1 - The Importance of Reading

A - Watch this video: Other Voices **& Take Notes**

Ben Carson's Advice For Young People Who Want To Be Successful –
The Example of Reading

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TaXdSr95_LY

Lesson 8 – Note Taking Practice 2 – The Compare & Contrast Essay

Your instructor may lecture on the Compare and Contrast Essay. Also read and watch the following. *IN ANY or EITHER CASE - TAKE NOTES.*

The Writing Center at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill:
<https://writingcenter.unc.edu/tips-and-tools/comparing-and-contrasting/>

or

How to Write a Compare and Contrast Essay
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3jJJl4xcY44>

Lesson 9 – Writing a Compare and Contrast Essay

Write a compare and contrast essay of what you learned in the video in Lesson 7 with the advice of Latter-day prophet President Ezra Taft Benson to read every day from the *Book of Mormon* and one other Scripture.

Lesson 10 – Note-taking Practice 3

1 - Watch and take copious note on this video:

You will be expected to be able to discuss each point of the ten using examples from the video.

Also, the next ten writing assignments will be essays on the Top Ten Rules Dr. Carson discusses.

Some People HATE SPIDERS... I Hated POVERTY, I Couldn't STAND IT! | Ben Carson | Top 10 Rules

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qna6lHDwf88>

Lesson 11 – Redo's

1 – Re-listen to the video above and follow your notes as you do.

2 – Add to your notes as necessary.

Lesson 12 – Rewrite your notes from the Ben Carson Top Ten Rules for Success Video.

Lessons 13-14 – Essay Writing

Watch the following on Essay writing and/or receive instruction from your teacher.

How to Write A Good Essay

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=liyFKUFCQno>

Lessons 15-24 – Write a Well Written, Thoughtful Essay on each of Dr. Ben Carson’s Top Ten Rules for Success

1 – Speak Up for What You Believe

2 – Think in Terms of Solutions

3 – Plan and Strategize

4 – Don’t Accept excuses

5 – Learn to Create Options

6 – Take Risks

7 – Take Control of Your Life

8 – You Are Capable of Anything

9 – Think Big

10 – Lift Up Your Environment

Lesson 25 – Final Essay for Level 5, Section 1

Write a Biographical Essay on Dr. Benjamin Carson.

Cite at least three sources in your bibliography.

(A Bibliography is simply a list of the sources you use for a particular writing.)