

PS1 Girls' transcript (anonymised)

joa any questions you all understand yeah brilliant right should we start then now the first three questions are not specifically about *Harry Potter* they're just about your reading habits in general okay so

[teacher interrupts to ask what the three girls want for their school lunch]

joa okay, so I just want to ask you first about your reading habits in general okay so the first question the first thing that I'd like you to talk to each other about is erm what kinds of things you're reading now what's the book you're in the middle of now?

gl1 mmm (.)

gl2 mine's a mystery story

gl1 mine is just like a 101 classic stories

gl3 mine is just *Dork Diaries*, it's sort of like a dork in a diary

joa a what diary?

gl3 a dork diary

joa oh a dork diary right okay and what kind of authors are they? what's the author...

gl1 erm mine is (.) I'm not quite sure what mine is

gl2 I think mine is Helen Crossburn something like that

gl3 I can't remember mine

joa okay right so the next thing that I want you to talk to each other about then is erm where you tend to be when you do most of your reading, where's your favourite place to read?

gl1 Erm I read mine in my [inaudible, high-heeled shoes passing by]

gl2 I probably like reading at school

gl3 Erm I like reading in a corner with my mum

joa okay (.) and you like reading in your room?

gl1 yeah

joa and what time of day do you do most of your reading?

gl1 erm (.) I do mine at night time most of the time

gl2 mine's like usually in the afternoon

gl3 mine's sort of in at night

joa at bedtime before you go to sleep?

gl3 yeah

joa (.) okay (.) right now erm the next thing I want you to talk to each other about then is erm what kind of things do you like to read generally what's your favourite style of book?

gl1 erm (.) I like erm (.) fairy tales stories stuff like that

gl2 mine's like a mystery one

gl3 erm I like reading sort of like a romancey horror story

joa and do do you have any favourite authors that you can think of or

gl1 erm (.) my favourite author (.) is (.) Michael Morpurgo.

gl2 my favourite author is (.) Stephanie Meyers

- gl3: my favourite author's Roald Dahl
- joa okay has everyone said everything they want to about those questions
- gl3 yeah [together]
- joa okay should we move on to the next one then right now I'd like you to have a chat with your friends now about erm if you can remember how you first heard about the *Harry Potter* Books if you just have a discussion with each other about how you heard about the if you can remember how you first heard about the *Harry Potter* books
- gl1 I first heard about mine from my brother because he used to read them so that's how I started to read them
- gl2 Well I first found out about *Harry Potter* books when my sister erm sister started (.) erm coz she went to the library and she saw them so she came back and she just she told me and then that's how I found out
- gl3 I started like reading them when I was watching the film with my friend
- joa okay anything else (.) right we'll move onto the next question then now erm can you have a chat now with each other about erm if you remember your parents or another grown-up maybe ever reading the *Harry Potter* books to you maybe when you were younger?
- gl1 probably my nana did and my granddad
- gl2 I think my Granddad Bob sat on the sofa with me and read it
- gl3 and I think my (.) Dad sat down and read it to me

joa okay anything else (.) no okay and do you remember your parents reading to you when you were very little?

gl1 (.) sort of (.)

joa right okay the next thing erm I'd love it now if you would find out each other's thoughts about what made you first want to read your first *Harry Potter* book on your own if you'd just have a chat with each other about

gl1 because it was like a magical story

gl2 erm (.) I don't know

[giggles]

gl2 erm

joa it's alright take your time if you need to have a think

gl3 coz when my granddad first read one book to me I thought that I could read one on my own

gl2 I still don't know (.) well because I've like started reading my erm first book by myself I thought that I could erm possibly read that book by myself

joa okay excellent okay everyone said everything they want to about that question (.) yeah okay now erm will you now have a chat with your friends about what you like about the *Harry Potter* books I'm sure you'll have lots to say about this one

gl1 that it's got like magical stuff in and that it's a fantasy

gl2 I like it because I like all the stuff that happens when Harry goes places and defeats Voldemort and stuff

gl3 I like it because it's like because there's some bits that er like when he cause some bits are like funny and then some bits are like a bit scary cause I like scary stuff so that's why I started reading it

joa okay and do you agree yeah [whispered 'yeah'] anything else you can remember about why you like reading *Harry Potter* books (.) anything at all (.) is it maybe the characters or the st, parts of the story (.)

gl1 I just like the adventures that he goes on (.)

joa okay (.) and how you when if you can remember reading a bit that you really liked can you remember how how it makes you feel when you're reading a part that you really like what does it make you feel like?

gl1 well when Bellatrix erm got a knife and stabbed Dobby erm I was like oh no what's happened to Dobby

[giggling]

joa did you two like that bit as well or was it something else for you?

gl2 yeah

gl3 yeah

joa so it makes you feel excited kind of yeah?

gl1 well sort of sad because Dobby's dead but sort of happy because Bellatrix gets

gl2 dead

joa right (.) [whispered giggles] okay do you have anything else you want to say about that (.) right now the next thing I'd like you to have a discussion about is erm if there's anything that you don't like about the *Harry Potter* books

[10 minutes and 47 seconds in]

gl1 I hate the madman on the bus [laughter]

joa Do you remem... do you two remember that bit?

gls2&3 (together) Yeah

joa Yeah

gl2 (as the other gls persistently laugh) Erm their just back home and er (.) takes his suitcase and then he falls onto the side and the madman comes on the bus (.) and went in (.) and then speeded past

joa And did you two like that bit or not like that bit

gl2 [inaudible bits, high-heeled shoes passing by] I don't like some bits of it cause it's like some bits are like a bit erm (.) gruesome

joa Do you agree

gl3 I like gruesome so I can't agree

joa Okay anything else? Okay right now well I would like you now to erm have a chat about why you think some people don't read *Harry Potter* books and then what type of people do you think don't like to read *Harry Potter*

gl1 I think like erm (.) teenagers erm might not probably read it because they probably not like erm been to that kind of stuff

joa Okay what do you two think

gl2 I agree with (gl1) because they're like (.) they're (.) I don't know the word for them

gl1 what they're

gl3 they're too old or too (.) mature

gl2 They think they're cool and they don't like [giggling] wizards

gl3 Well I think they'll not read it because the madman comes in the bus but they'll also get too old for it but my granddad still reads it so nobody's too old to read *Harry Potter* it is just their sort of feeling about books

gl2 my brother still reads though and he hates it

joa Do you two agree Yeah Any other erm type of people you think might not like *Harry Potter*

gl1 Nannas

gl2 my grand yeah nannas [giggling]

gl3 toddlers

gl1 toddlers might not

joa toddlers

gl2 babies might not like it [giggling]

gl3 neither will six year olds I tried to get my

gl1 my sister doesn't like it she's only seven

gl2 I tried to get my cousin to try read it but he went 'no I want Sky landers' [giggling]

joa Anything else any other type of people or (.) okay should we go into the next question then you've said everything you want to okay so can you now have a chat with each other about if you think *Harry Potter's* helped you to improve your reading

gl1 [giggling] Well yes cause now I can read difficult words because when I was seven I couldn't

gl2 same as (gl1)

gl2 What was the question again

Joa Erm do you think Harry Potter has helped improve your reading

gl2 A little bit

joa Okay in what in what ways do you think

gl2 it's like the same as (gl1) it's like reading difficult words

joa So you think it it had some difficult words in it and that's that's helped you so you're not (.) you've gone on to read more books with difficult words and is that right with all of you yeah

gl3 There is no doubt about it that I can can't read any difficult words now well I struggle on some words but that's it

joa And what can you remember what kinds of books did you read afterwards then

gl3 Erm (.) well I read *The Deathly Hallows* a few months ago part two

joa (.) That's okay do you need more time to think

gl3 yeah

joa Okay if you remember you will tell us yeah okay right now the next thing I want you to talk about is erm have you read any *Harry Potter* books but then not seen the film

gl1 Erm (.) that's a no (.)

joa Okay go on and have a chat with each other about that

gl2 I have seen more films than the book

gl3 Well I have got (.) well I have read one *Harry Potter* book and I've got a couple of about five (.) four or five erm DVDs of that

joa Do you remember any of the the names of the ones that you've seen read the book but not seen the film? (.) Do you remember which one was it they were? (.)Okay and how about have you seen any films but then not read the book?

gl1 I have I (.)

joa okay tell tell each other tell each other then see see who's read what and (interrupted)

gl2 I have read the (.) I think is the *Order of the Phoenix* I'm not sure think I've read part of it but not the whole of it (.) I've got to finish

joa You've got to finish it?

gl2 Yeah cause then I've read all the books and watch all the films

joa How about you too?

gl3 Well (.) I don't think I have seen (.) erm I've watched erm I don't know (.) what I actually watched.

Joa Is it the earlier ones or the later ones?

gl3 I think it's the earlier ones

joa The earlier ones yeah

gl3 But I'm not sure

joa You are not sure okay no problem should we go on to the next one then it is hard to remember those isn't it right

gl3 Talking about two years ago

joa And for those stories where you've seen the film and read the or read the book and you've seen the film do do you remember erm which you did first (.) was it read the book or see the film?

gl1 I watched the film first

joa Watched the film first

gl2 I had to read the book first

gl3 I (.) watched the film first then the book

joa Okay (.) and can you remember any of the names of any of those stories?

gl1 Erm

joa or films which [interrupted]

gl1 [inaudible] am not sure

joa The first one

gl1 The first film I have watched is where Voldemort kills his parents

gl2 I've seen that one as well

joa Okay right (.) right now the next thing that I want you to have a chat about is erm can you think of something that one of the books did better than the film (.) so a particular scene where you think the book did it better than the film (.) where your imagination is better?

gl2 I think if you read the book first then you've got some like an imagination of what it's gonna be like but it's always different from the book and the film because you've changed it..

joa And can remember any any particular scenes or characters or special effects if you're talking about the film?

gl1 Erm I remember loads of the characters

gl2 Yeah I remember lots of characters Hermione Jenny Ron erm (.)

gl3 I've forgotten that girls name

joa Hermione?

gl3 Yeah Hermione

joa you think Hermione is better in the book or the film you say?

gl3 I think in (.) both of them I'm not sure

joa Right okay erm (.)

gl1 sorry what was the question again

joa If you can think of something that the book did better than the film something you preferred reading rather than seeing?

gl1 (.) I'm not sure

joa Okay that's fine erm how about the other way round then can you think of something you preferred to watch in the film something that the film did better than the book did?

gl2 I like the way Dobby erm (.) said (.) something like with master *Harry Potter* (.) oh that's it I will not [inaudible] Mr Potter

gl3 Erm I'm sure which one it was (.) but but I like the bit where erm (.) I think they got the teacher gave them the first erm flying stick thingies erm

gl1 oh broom stick

gl3 Yeah those and erm and then Harry he went erm (.) he went up first and so he's erm (.) who's that erm boy called

gl1 Neville

gl3 the (.) is it the blond one

gl2 the blond one

gl3 yeah

gl2 it's erm (.) it'll come back to me

gl3 yeah because I think that bit did better than the book

gl2 Draco

gl1 Yeah Draco Malfoy

gl2 Yeah that's it

joa Okay do you agree (.) what you think about that scene?

gl2 It's good

joa Yeah you think it was better in the film than the book yeah?

gl2 Yeah but I like the feast bit

joa The what?

gl2 The feast bit where they go up and have the hat on their heads and say whether they're Slithering Griffindor and there's two other houses

gl5 yeah

joa I see you nodding, you all agree with that yeah any other bits where you think the film did better than the book?

gl1 is it when I think it's better when they have that race on the broomsticks

gl2 Oh yes

gl3 Oh that one

gl2 what race?

gl3 that race on the broomsticks where they let that flying ball out

gl2 That's a game

gl3 yeah something like that

gl2 I like the bit where they get to stroke that Dragon that's funny 'I'm going to die' Draco (.) and he gets taken into hospital

joa Anything else?

gl3 No

gl1 No

joa Okay right shall we shall we go into the next question then?

gl1 Yes please [giggling]

joa Right now erm have you ever shared any of the books with a friend or anyone else?

gl3 With my mum and dad and stuff

gl1 I have to share them with everybody

gl2 Well I shared mine with my little cousin

joa Do you have to share with everybody?

gl2 Yeah my cousin just ripped the front page off so I couldn't read it [giggling] He picked up the book opened it and ripped it off and he ripped it off and put it in the bin

joa And which books which book was that do you remember?

gl2 Mine I had already read it erm it was the very first one that I got [giggling]

gl3 I think mine was Deathly Hallows I think

joa Are you sure about (...) okay (.) anybody else or is that (.) okay right now this is the last question now though okay so erm I would like you now to have a chat with each other whether you think that reading *Harry Potter* encouraged you to go on and read other things afterwards

gl1 Some

gl2 Yeah

gl3 Definitely

joa And do you remember which which books

gl3 I do er I remember the Deathly Hallows one which er inspired me to go on to *Twilight* (.) but I still go back and read *Harry Potter* you know and my brother is

reading one of my books at the moment but he is not good at reading and he always says 'what's this word?' (.) and I go 'find out for yourself from the internet you've got computer right next to you' he never does though (.) which is pretty bad

gl1 Erm (.) [giggling]

joa You don't remember (.) okay Is anyone with anything else you want to say? No okay right well that's all my questions girls thank you for your time and your help you've giving us some very interesting things to some very interesting answers to my questions so we really appreciate your help there and you are helping us out with some really important research up at University erm thank you very much for your time (.) okay you can erm go back to your classrooms now

gl5 Thank you

joa Thank you

gl5 Bye bye

joa Bye bye thank you

PS2 Girls transcript (anonymized)

Jo: ok so yeah . and this one is back up in case that battery goes . okay we'll put xxx Josie Bellatrix okay [laughs] . Ellie Tonks okay [laughs] . and Beth Potter right [laughs]

Girl: do you do this sort of thing at other schools as well

Jo: we we did it at PS1 primary as well and also in two high schools at SS1

Girl: did you erm did you do something with Carris someone called Carris

Jo: Carris I don't xxx recognise that name where does she go

Girl: PS1

Jo: PS1 no I don't think so

Girl: do you know someone called Caitlin

Jo: Caitlin

Girl: oh yeah Caitlin

Jo: oh I don't know

Girl: Hailey

Jo: I can't remember it was a long time ago now [laughs]

Girl: [overlapping voices] I only know a few people

Jo: ok right so are we all happy to start then yeah everyone comfortable . okay right so erm firstly thank you for agreeing to take part in this erm chat this morning and also for filling in the questionnaire that was a few weeks ago you remember when Steve walked you through that questionnaire erm so as you know I'm I'm I'm Lily's mum or Jo if you don't know my name . and erm this is Jane as well

Jane: hello

Jo: [laughs] and we're from up at Lancaster University and we're doing a study into what young people like yourselves feel about the Harry Potter books . okay so erm now today we're going to do what's called a focus group and that just means that I'm going to erm throw some questions out there to you and I just want you to have a chat amongst yourselves about your answers so as I said before it's not a test in any way there's no right or wrong answers erm just be honest we're just really

interested in what you have to say what you think about the Harry Potter books alright . now you're free to say what you like when you like you don't have to put your hand up or anything like that if you want to talk just talk and you don't all have to agree so if you don't agree with what someone said you say your opinion feel free to and erm but there are a few things that we should remember so because there's erm seven of you try not to talk over each other so probably just the same as in class if somebody's talking let them finish don't interrupt them erm give everyone a chance to speak if they want to . and of course if you don't want to say anything then you don't have to either alright is that clear yeah

Girls: yeah

Jo: okay now I've told you about the erm the recorder there that's just for my benefit so I can type it out later no one else is going to hear it okay

Girl: what's that little one for

Jo: that's just a back up in case that battery goes okay [laughter] . now erm it it will like I say it will be deleted and erm teachers won't hear it or anything like that so is any- is everybody happy xxx yeah

Girls: yeah

Jo: any questions

Girl: no

Jo: ok right well I've got a few [laughter] . okay so erm just for the purposes of the recorder if we could just go around and just say your names just so that erm we've got them obviously we all know each other but if you just just say I'm Nikki and then yeah

Girl: okay I'm Nikki

Girl: I'm Katrina

Girl: I'm Hailey

Girl: I'm Helen

Girl: I'm Josieh

Girl: I'm Ellie

Girl: I'm Beth

Jo: okay and like I say I'm Jo right now erm the first couple of questions are not specifically about the Harry Potter books they're just more about your reading habits in general okay so the first thing I'd like to do is if we could just go around maybe we'll start with Tammy this time and just tell me what you're reading now

Tam: erm well I'm starting all again at the first one Philistix [sic] stone

Jo: oh the Harry Potter books

Tam: yeah The Philosopher's Stone

Jo: Philosopher's Stone this one's erm an American one so it's called The Sorcerer's Stone but that'll be that one wouldn't it okay so you're starting at the beginning again

Tam: yeah

Jo: excellent okay and Ellie what are you reading now

Ellie: I'm reading The Amber Spyglass

Jo: The Amber Spyglass who's that by

Ellie: Phillip Pullman

Jo: ah okay . how about you Josieh

Sus: oh I don't know

Jo: if you were if you were going to get a book out today and read what would it be

Sus: erm

Jo: or anything a magazine anything

Sus: I'm reading the second Hunger Games

Jo: second Hunger Games ah okay

Grl: I'm reading Breaking Dawn

Jo: ah is that a Twilight one

Grl: yeah

Jo: okay and Hailey what would you re-

Meg: and I- I'm reading Flat Stanley

Jo: Flat Stanley excellent I like them books

Kat: erm-

Jo: how about you Katalina

Kat: I'm reading the big version of The Faraway Tree

Jo: of what

Kat: The Faraway Tree

Jo: oh I love those books excellent

Grl: I'm reading Harry Potter and Chamber of Secrets

Jo: ah brilliant okay excellent and is anybody reading anything else like I don't know magazines or yeah you don't have to put your hand up Tammy

Tam: erm sorry erm I read comics and . I'm reading one of this book that's about a girl who's lost in a town

Jo: oh right okay and what what what's the what's it called the comic

Tam: erm

Jo: it doesn't matter if you can't remember don't worry

Tam: I can't really remember

Jo: don't worry anybody else reading anything that's not a a fiction a a novel anything maybe on the internet even a magazine . newspapers [laughs] no

Grl: yeah I read newspapers

Jo: do you which newspaper do you like to read

Grl: erm . whatever my mum gets

Jo: [laughs]

Grl: just something to do when I'm bored

Jo: ah anybody else want to share what they're reading . no okay excellent and erm what kinds of things do you like to read generally you told me the specific book that you're reading now but what's the what's the usual thing that you read

Jo: yeah Hailey

Meg: erm adventure books like like er with like fiction books and like just adventure books like something what you will [really??] get into not like just boring books like poems and

Jo: something with action in it you like do you okay how about everybody else

Grl: erm I like the ones like erm I just go to I just sometimes I go to the shop and then read like the blurb on it and I think and I think that sounds good so I just get the book and then I get right into the series of the books so I just buy the rest

Jo: ah so like to read series do you okay . you don't have to put your hand up Tammy just talk when you want to

Tam: erm . I I like fansity fansity [sic] stories
[door slams]

Jo: yeah excellent

Grl: I like I like mythical stories

Jo: oh nice . okay

Grl: I like adventure mythical and horror stories

Grl: horror stories are good

Jo: yeah

Grl: yeah

Jo: . do you not get scared

Grles: [multiple girls] no no

Jo: [intake of breath] I would

Grl: they're not really that scary

Grl: they're not even they're not even scary

Grl: [laughs]

Grl: I've got this book and it and it said . ten but I'm not I wasn't ten really I think it was last year

Jo: right . okay

Grl: I like fantasy and sad and horror stories

Jo: right okay

Grl: why sad that makes you cry

[small laughter]

Grl: no I've got this sad book

Grl: sometimes I don't like stories with happy ending

[laughter]

Jo: really oh right okay

Grl: because it's surprising then that you have a happy ending

Jo: ah

Grl: [laughs]

Grl: oh

Grl: no

Grl: oh yeah it's no surprise is it xxx the happy ending

Jo: well it would be a surprise then wouldn't it yeah okay anything else . anyone wants to say there . on the types of things they like to usually read . okay now erm where do you tend to be when you do most of your reading . what place are you usually in when you read

Grl: erm sometimes I go to the library and some like just mostly at home and school

Jo: the school library or the library in town

Grl: erm the library in town

Jo: ah okay

Grl: so school . my house and my w- and the library

Jo: okay okay and Josieh was you going to say

Grl: in bed

Jo: in bed yeah

Grl: on my couch . both couches

Jo: okay

Grl: erm I read on . erm sometimes when m- if my family's quiet Jane's in another room I always get my book out and sometimes I do it in bed when I'm just about to go to bed or when my sister is in town in the library I choose a book and just read it

Jo: lovely okay and JAz you were going to put your hand up what was y-where do you like to-

Grl: erm mine's like Josieh's in bed

Jo: in bed right yeah

Grl: erm

Grl: I-

Grl: you go

[laughter]

Grl: go on Helen you go first

Grl: erm I like to erm read in my bedroom like . just in my bed and I read when I'm in bed as well

Jo: right okay and Nikki how about you

Grl: I read just before bed and sometimes when the TV's on when everyone's else watching it just like background noise

Jo: okay right . excellent . okay now can you remember how you first heard about these books about the Harry Potter books

Grl: I wat- I watched the film when I was in North Korea then when I got back to England I started reading the books

Jo: ah . so you'd seen just the first film was it and then you start-

Grl: I think it was the first and the second film in North Korea then I . read them

Grl: erm . I keep putting my hand up [laughter] erm I he- first hear of Harry Potter when erm like when my uncle used to watch it when I was like a little kid because he keeps erm like talking about it because he still likes it and erm well not when I was a little kid when I was like . well like now and erm I heard people like talking about it like Lilly and that

Jo: ah okay

Grl: erm

Jo: Beth

Grl: erm when I because my mom for my birthday this year well I think it was when I was eight I got a box set of the Harry Potter d- films

Jo: ah

Grl: so then when I watched them all I wanted to get the books so every- on that . when we was always in town I was allowed two pounds and I- we always went to charity shops and get books

Jo: brilliant good plan

Grl: I- when my dad was when my dad was erm telling me to watch the films so we put the first one on and I really got into it so when . and then my mum- I sad to my mummy she could by me the box set of the DVDs and she got me them and then I got really into the films so I got the books

Jo: okay right

Grl: erm my . when I once when my mum came home she brought a Harry Potter DVD home and er we watched it . I really liked it and then I heard that there was more like DVDs of Harry Potter . so . so I ke- so I watched more of them and I got like in- I got into Harry Potter more

Jo: okay

Grl: erm well I saw the first one Chamber of Secrets when my friend erm . friend came and brang this DVD and didn't know what it was . and then it was really interesting and then I started . and then I started re- . not reading er seeing more of the films and then er and then the books came out so I started reading the books

Jo: okay okay anybody else

Grl: my sisters kept trying to get me to watch the films so when I watched them all I bought all the books and then . er I just got into them

Jo: right okay so everybody's saying that they heard about the books through the films really then are they yeah

Grls: [chorus of "yeah"]

Jo: everybody okay . excellent . right [door slams] now erm did your parents or another grown up ever read any of these books to you when you were younger

Grls: [chorus of "no"]

Jo: so no for Nikki no for Hailey no for JAz

Grl: I don't I don't really know but I think it's a no because . I don't know but

Jo: okay

Grl: it might it's like fifty fifty

Jo: so maybe just a yes from Tammy there was it then yeah

Grl: yeah because when I first got it she read one to me because I cause it . she said that I should get the hang of it or reading them

Jo: oh okay excellent . and do do you remember your parents reading to you a- a- any books when you were when you were very little . yeah . yeah

Grls: [multiple girls] yes

Jo: okay . excellent and what was your favorite bedtime story then from when you were really small do you remember

Grl: what like a baby or something

Jo: yeah yeah . you don't have to put your hand up

Grl: Humpty Dumpty

Jo: Humpty Dumpty right brilliant yeah

Grl: well we had this book well it was like erm The Three Little Pigs but it was Three Little Wolves and there was a bad pig and then m- whenever I was little my my mum I told my mum to keep reading that one cause I liked it that much

Jo: excellent

Grl: I got erm Angelina Ballerina

Jo: ah xxx

Grl: I had the . bo- xxx

Grl: -ah I used to . get that read to me

Grl: yeah I watched

Grl: at the back they always had a picture erm my mum said you could play on the back so I used my fingers to play on them

Jo: [laughs] go on Josieh what are you

Grl: I liked this series called Mr Man

Jo: oh yes

Grl: oh yeah Mr Man

Grl: oh yeah

Jo: which was your favorite Mr Man then

Grl: erm . erm . er . Mr Messy I think

Jo: Mr Messy okay

Grl: mine was just like erm a big book of nursery rhymes and I just my mum used to read them to me all the time

Jo: okay

Grl: mine was this story . of an anteater there w- was like three stories in one book it was the story of an anteater a penguin and a baby gorilla

Grl: oh I read that

Jo: oh

Grl: I had this like big book full of Disney stories and then . my sister read them to me so that that was my favorite

Jo: oh that's the one you remember

Grl: there w- and she xx she also used to re- she re- re- used to read me Humpty Dumpty and erm .

Jo: is that your mum

Grl: yeah

Jo: yeah

Grl: and erm I forgot now erm . . erm what now

Jo: [small laugh] . if it comes back to you you can tell us

Grl: erm also it's a lot like Nikki's erm my mom got this xxx and it's about Cinderella and the Disney Snow White and stuff all these erm princesses and my mum always like well I think it was my mum or sister they kept on reading it to me er over and over xxx

Jo: ah

Grl: oh I half remember now it's the Gruffalo

Jo: The Gruffalo yeah yeah

Grl: oh yeah

Jo: [laughs] . I like the Gruffalo [laughs] okay now some of you have already mentioned that it was the films but erm wh- ther- can anyone remember what made them want to read the first Harry Potter books I know some of you have already said it was seeing the films but . erm is there any other

Grl: yeah

Jo: go on

Grl: erm when . when my mom read it to me and because I got the first one and I started to like keep on reading it and reading it so I could understand it more and then because I got the use of it my mum could buy me more books . so

Grl: my dad because . he erm . he was the one who even decided to let that we should watch the first Harry Potter

Jo: okay

Grl: so when I was in year four because I liked the first Harry Potter . I found actually I found it in my house yeah when I was in year four . and so I decided to read it . and then

Jo: okay

Grl: I started reading the rest of them

Jo: right . and how about everybody else it was the films was it yeah yeah

Grfs: [multiple girls] yeah

Jo: yeah okay yeah we've already said that haven't we okay now what is it that you like about the Harry Potter books

Grl: erm they're erm like they're just like . like some of them are like kind of mystery kind of and adventurous like not adventurous like what it actually means but like . like . adventurous but it doesn't actually mean adventurous like oh I don't I don't know the word

Jo: you you like action books you said so you like the the

Grl: yeah like when Harry Potter like just . like they're kind of not funny but like where he just magics stuff with his wand and then like to that wizard or something

Jo: just they're exciting yeah okay anyone else

Grl: I I yeah

Grl: erm

Grl: you can go first

Jo: go on Ellie

Grl: I like the characters . I like the objects cause they're kind of cool like

Jo: they objects what do you mean

Grl: like the on- like the egg where you put under water and and it sounds like mermaids

Jo: okay

Grl: and also like the Phoenix and the creatures . like Hagrid's spider . the Basalisk

Grl: and my favorite character is Moody Margaret and I like her

Grl: Moody Margaret?

Grl: yeah erm the crying

Grl: Moaning Myrtle

Grl: yeah that's the one erm

Jo: yeah you're getting mixed up with Horrid Henry [laughs]

[laughter]

Grl: cause I get xxx mixed up (?)

Grl: and I like erm her because she's sensitive and I also like Hermione because when because in the first book . when I first watched the film she's all like this bossy and stuff and erm in the books xxx kind of they're similar but I also like the books more because they have more description than the stories

Jo: mmm okay

Grl: I- I like the . the creatures on the o- like the characters like . because she she writes about them gives like lots of description about them

Jo: yeah okay wh whi- which creature's your favourite then

Grl: the Phoenix

Jo: ah okay

Grl: erm I think they have a lot of imagination in them and my favorite like erm person is probably Ron

Jo: yeah

Grls: [multiple voices] yeah

Jo: everyone likes Ron

Grl: yeah he's xxx

Jo: what is it about Ron that you like then JAz

Grl: he's just funny and

Grl: yeah

Grl: sensitive

Grl: [overlapping] he sometimes does stupid things but in a funny way

Grl: [overlapping] yeah he does stupid things but it's funny at the same time

Grl: [overlapping] he eats- he eats a lot

Grl: [overlapping] like the one with the pow- po- like the one with the pow- love potion

Grl: [overlapping] and he's scared of spiders

Jo: ah

[laughter]

Grl: I like the erm about like the adventure and everything they're going to try to like how they're trying to save people at Hogwarts and stuff

Jo: oh okay

Grl: I also like the last one where the trolls erm where . erm I can't remember the head teacher

Jo: Dumbledore

Grl: yeah

Grl: no not Dumbledore the white with the grey hair she's in a lot of films

Grl: oh . deputy head

Grl: the one

Grl: McGonagall

Grl: yeah erm and she summoned erm these trolls who're meant to protect the erm school

Grl: oh yes

Grl: oh yeah

Grl: she xxx when the one where she got all this she said she wanted to do that xxx a long time when she got all the statues that were hanging around the entrance and she brought them to life

Grl: summoned them

Jo: brilliant okay Josieh what were you going to say you liked about the books

Grl: I liked the characters and the creatures and the stuff like the Horcruxes and I like Hogwarts

Jo: so everything [laughs] . anybody else want to share what they like about the books

Grl: I also find Mr Dumbledore very . very erm confusing because he's always doing like he ignores Harry Potter and he saves him and like on the other one where erm . when . the pink lady was firing one of the erm . the teachers and Mr Dumbledore put the stop to it and then Harry Potter was trying to talk to him but he ignored him

Jo: oh okay

Grl: oh Umbridge

Grl: yeah

Jo: [whispered] ah Umbridge okay

Grl: yeah

Grl: I like the Chamber of Secrets it's one of my favourites because . I like it when he speaks parseltongue and I like it when Malfoy flies in midair and is like spinning around and lands really weirdly and then he s- and he starts to cry a bit when Snape pulls him up by the scruff of his neck

Jo: [laughs]

Grl: think I think my favorite . monst- like monster scary monster is this big that big spider cause I hate spiders

Jo: mmm [laughs]

Grl: [laughs] that just gave me the creeps

Jo: okay

Grl: [quietly] Aragog

Jo: anything else

Grl: [quietly] yeah [in response to "Aragog"?] Aragog

Jo: . . . okay so when you're reading those parts that you that you just said that you like there erm how does it make you feel

Grl: erm sometimes it makes . me . with the spider it makes me shiver [laughs]

Jo: [laughs]

Grl: and when on the last one the Deathly Hallows erm at the end it makes me happy that it was over and done and then . the first one was exciting cause I first read it and I got into it

Jo: okay excellent how about other peop-

Grl: I liked in Dea- I liked in Deathly Hallows like erm the at the end when it when it was like when Harry was Harry kept se- tr- seeing his mum and his dad when he would go in to fight Voldemort and it made me feel like a- at least he's got his mum and dad with him when he does it

Jo: yeah

Grl: oh that's when he was going to die

Grl: [two voices] yeah

Grl: I liked-

Grl: he did die but . he came back to life

Grl1: [overlapping] [loud] yeah because he he didn't die he he he no he didn't fake it he erm

Grl: [overlapping] xxx

Grl: [overlapping] [quieter] I thought he faked it

Grl1: [loud] he he he no he didn't fake it he erm .

Grl: no he actually did

Grl1: he it was Volemort it was like . it ma- it was like him as Voldemort so when Voldemort killed him Voldemort actually killed himself [laughs]

Grl: [multiple voices] yeah

Grl: [overlapping] yeah and then when he went . when

Grl1: so Voldemort was still alive but Harry just killed himself

Grl: [overlapping] when Harry went up to the thing erm heaven to talk to Dumbledore he saw this erm er Voldemort this creature Voldemort

Grl: yeah

Grl: that's the last bit of his soul

Grl: yeah and that and also when I also watched orange Annoying Orange Harry Potter it was funny because it did the scene

Jo: Annoying Orange

Grl: [overlapping] yeah xxx

Grl: yeah because he went yeah because he went same as up to heaven cause he just died and then then there was Dumbledore and there was a creature and then it said how to kill p- Dum- erm Voldemort in a trap

Jo: ah okay so going going back to erm how how it makes you feel then when you read those parts that you that you all said you liked xxx anybody else

Grl: I-

Grl: it makes me happy like if I'm like like sad or something and then I'm bored and I want to read a book and when I read a Harry Potter book it makes me feel like the Deathly Hallows it makes me feel like feel happy in a kind of way and like but if I read a proper sad one then like if it's not a Harry Potter one then like ah like I'm just going to get sad even more

Jo: aw [sympathetic sound]

Grl: I'm . when Cedric Diggory dies in the fourth one I'm actually really happy cause he's one of the a- most annoyingest characters in all of the books for some reason

Jo: [small laugh] okay

Grl: he's just he likes Harry one minute he's hanging around all the Hufflepuffs next minute he's like Harry because you helped me I'll help you and when he dies and his father goes all emotional I just laugh at it

Jo: [laughs]

Grl: I also like I also like er Dobby

Grl: yeah I like Dobby

Grl: [overlapping] Dobby is annoying xxx

Grls: xxx

Grl: [overlapping] and also Creature Creature and me and my sister always make xxx make xxx of him because because do you know because he has a long nose . my sister always says that probably that's probably how he picks his nose [laughter] picks it

[laughter]

Grl: I like I xxx it was a bit sad when Dobby died and stuff because he was always there for Harry and everything

Jo: yeah

Grl: and he saved hi- saved his life like and then he died for Harry

Jo: so that made you feel sad that bit yeah

Grl: yeah and it was

Jo: yeah

Grl: I feel sorry for . erm Sirius Black's erm house elf because because they left him because they

Grl: oh Creature

Grl: yeah because they left him all alone in and the Death Eaters they broke in to the house yeah I felt sorry for him because

Jo: okay

Grl: he was now happy because he had the fake locket to remind him of his master who he served . not Sirius Black cause he hated him

Grl: I always felt sor-

Grl: it was . the one

Grl: Regulus Black

Grl: like it was

Grl: I also felt sad whe-

Grl: sorry

Grl: I also felt sad when Dobby died

Jo: mmm

Grl: er cause he was saving them and then he died and it was all suddenly in in the book it was all loads of description how he died and all the words that make it feel sad

Jo: aw

Grl: yeah

Grl: I cried when Dumbledore died [laughs]

Jo: did you so that made you feel sad as well yeah

Grls: yeah . yeah

Grl: Harry Potter [high strange voice]

Jo: anybody else cry

Grls: yeah yeah

Grl: Harry Potter [high strange voice]

Grl: [high noises]

Grl: I actually was just staring at the TV when I saw Dumbledore die I was just like

Jo: at the t- wh- how about when you we- when you erm read the book did the book make

Grl: when I when I when I read the book erm I I was just like I stopped reading when he when I when Dumbledore dead [died?]

Jo: right and you you you'd read the book the you'd seen the film before you'd read the book so the surprise came in the film did it right yeah

Grl: erm well . I knew I knew what was going to happen but

Grl: it's still like xxx sad

Grl: it still felt like I was

Grl: empty space

Grl: I hadn't seen the movie before the book so I was still

Grl: and also when . also when Dobby died it reminded me when I read the book about erm . the I think it was the erm second Chamber of Secrets er . I think that's erm when . erm . . when Harry Potter gave him clothes

Jo: oh

Grl: cause that's how he could break being a servant

Jo: [overlapping] ah yeah

Grl: [overlapping] a sock

Grl: [overlapping] yeah a sock

Grl: [overlapping] that that bit that bit wa- that bit was like kind of cool cause Harry . Harry tricked Lucius so Harry gave Lucius the book . who gave it to Dobby but it had the sock in it so he gave the sock to Dobby because his

Jo: yeah

Grl: sock was in the book so xxx

Grl: and then . and then xxx tried to kill him

Grl: when in Deathly Hallows

Jo: sorry go on

Grl: I think it was and . he erm I don't know his name but Harry . and that erm troll person who owns the bank . the bank and they go to try . try to find the erm

[background incomprehensible whispering]

Grl: [overlapping] [whispering] what that one?

Grl: [overlapping] [whispering] yeah no xxx Hufflepuff xxx

Grl: [overlapping] [whispering] yeah tried to find xxxx

Grl: yeah tried to find yeah . Harry Potter gave it to the troll I think and then he he just all the things just duplicated and he left him and locked the door

Grl: was the troll . . was the troll in Myrtle's bathroom

[overlapping voices]

Grl: actually it was the sword he gave . to him he still had the cup

Grl: yeah

Jo: Was the was the the troll in Myrtle's bathroom xxx

Grl: I also thought

Grl: no it wasn't in Myrtle's eh was there a troll in Myrtle's bathroom

Grl: no it was the girls' bathroom

Grl: it was the girls' bathroom

Grl: yeah

Grl: ah

Grl: oh you mean oh you don't mean the troll you . you mean the . those little .
guys at the bank what they're called

Grl: no no it was that that huge .

Grl: oh that's the ogre

Grl: no it wasn't ogre

Grl: oh the troll

Grl: no that was that was in the that was in the first one

Grl: it was it was like a dwarf but elvey [sic] I think it was it was like a bit like a
house elf and a troll but smaller . yeah so he took the sort of Gryffindor and
ran out locked the door

Grl: yeah locked the door and ran

Grl: I also thought

Grl: and I I felt sorry for the dragon that that

Grl: oh poor dragon

Grl: I felt

Grl: but at least they got them away the xxx [pink?]

Grl: I felt

Jo: okay go on Nikki

Grl: I felt sorry for the snake

Jo: for the snake

Grl: Basilisk

Grl: in the Chamber of Secrets

Grl: yeah Basil-

Grl: like

Grl: yeah

Grl: it's taken its tooth out and dying . poor snake

Grl: it stabbed Harry . it stabbed Harry

Grl: poor snake

Grl: I also felt erm

[coughing]

Grls: xxx [overlapping] [some laughter]

Jo: go on Tammy

Grl: erm I also was like confused where when when that professor Dumbledore and wanted to see Harry Harry Potter in his erm chamber and erm there was this parrot bird and he

Grl: Phoenix

Grl: Phoenix

Grl: yeah the Phoenix

Jo: oh yeah

Grl: he turned into ash and then growed back

Grl: oh yeah and then he was reborn that's so cute

Grl: and he was reborn

Grl: yeah

Grl: yeah and I was all confused why was that parrot there then I finally got to the end where why it was there to help Harry Potter to beat the snake

Jo: right excellent okay now erm . are there some things that you don't like about the Harry Potter books

Grl: erm I don't like it when people die in it like like I don't think Harry Potter should be like that I think it just be should be like fighting and only the bad people dying and not the good people dying

Jo: ah

Grl: or the snake dying like Nikki said

Grl: I felt I d- I felt sad when Harry Potter was over and I kept on telling my mum that it wasn't over cause they have a son they should repeat it

Jo: so you don't don't like the fact that the books are finished

Grl: yes and the films and they shouldn't xxx

Jo: okay and anybody else what do you not like erm

Grl: I get I got angry when erm th- when erm Voldemort was just . ug- in the first one when you find out Voldemort killed Harry's parents I just got really angry with that and he just and it was really an- I was really angry because he shouldn't do that and stuff

Jo: mmm okay Josieh

Grl: I

Grl: I really hate James Potter because it was like his fault that Snape and Lily never got married

Grl: yeah

Grl: and I love Snape

Jo: [quiet laugh] you love Snape yeah

Grl: I

Grl: not as in as in

Grl: [laughs]

Jo: yeah [laughs]

Grl: I I didn't like it when Dumbledore makes his sister die cause it's says that in one of the book I got I from when I read . was in Deathly Hallows when I read the book and I heard that

Grl: it was from where they were finding

Grl: yeah where they were fighting Dumbledore and his friend

Grl: no finding a secret thing to

Grl: no fighting

Grl: [overlapping] yeah finding

Grl: [overlapping] they were fighting no fighting they were fighting . erm . Harry erm Dumbledore's brother Dumbledore and . Dumbledore's friend they were fighting and then the sister came out and saw them fighting and just died like that

Jo: oh you didn't like that bit

Grl: na- eh er it was all his fault

Jo: okay . and how about everybody else wh- what do you not like about the

Grl: I don't like

Jo: is there anything [laughs]

Grl: [laugh] erm Uncle Vernon and Aunt Petunia that they

Jo: ah

Grl: they don't even say the word magic

Jo: ah xxx yeah

Grl: Muggles

Grl: I don't like it when erm . when the- like Harry Potter's like sort of winning and then Voldemort just does something really really bad and it just . you have to start like . the fighting again

Grl: yeah it's annoying

Jo: okay

Grl: erm . I also don't like where the Goblet of Fire where he has to do all these courses but at the end where he gets a trophy erm Edward from Twilight he died and then it . and then also erm

Grl: Cedric

Grl: yeah the rat the Peter summat [sic]

Grl: oh yeah

Grl: Peter Petigrew

Grl: yeah puts him in a bone shape xxx I think it was Voldemort grave . and .

Grl: oh yeah the spell to make him come back

Grl: yeah and then . and then so then erm Peter . xxx got erm some blood off him and put it in the potion

Jo: okay

Grl: and then they were torturing him to fight Voldemort that was making me

Jo: you didn't like that bit

Grl: no

Jo: okay . right now is or has Harry Potter ever been your favorite fiction

Grls; [multiple girls] yeah

Jo: one xxx Josieh you're saying it still is yeah

Grl: yeah

Grl: yeah same

Jo: Ellie still is anybody else . Nikki

Grl: one of the books but not exactly my favorite

Grl: one of the-

Jo: okay

Grl: like . like not all the books but like about one or two are my still favorite books

Jo: okay

Grl: favorite fiction books

Jo: which which ones do you know which ones

Grl: erm . . The Half Blood Prince and . erm . . which one

Jo: I've got these the wrong way around haven't I [shuffling books/papers]

Grl: yeah that one that you picked up

Jo: The Prisoner of Azkaban okay

Grl: yeah

Grl: I also erm

Jo: has it ever been your favorite fiction Tammy

Grl: erm well these are all my favorite but my mum always says that sh- these used to be hers but when she read the Twilights . erm

Jo: okay

Grl: that was her favorite but I don't believe that I'm going to still like these

Jo: okay

Grl: Twilight's still good

Grl: I erm

Jo: how how about you Helen

Grl: like I read a lot of I've read all of them but I think erm the last one's my favorite out of them

Jo: okay

Grl: so you've read that one

Grl: yeah

Grl: that's the xxx

Grl: you read all of it

Grl: yeah

Grl: good

Grl: yes

Jo: [laughs]

Grl: xxx book

Jo: okay right now why do you think some people don't read the Harry Potter books

Grl: [overlapping] because m-

Grl: [overlapping] I love-

Grl: [overlapping] they're too big

Grl: [overlapping] because it's too long

Grl: c-c-

Jo: so Nikki you think cause they're too big Katarine you say they're too long okay Hailey

Grl: because erm they're too like like they might not read they might ring re- read a small book like Harry Potter and the Chamber of .

Grls: Secrets

Grl: Secrets yeah that's it erm and erm . erm but they might not ring ring er I keep on saying ring

Jo: [laughs]

Grl: read erm this and the Order of the fu- Phonix

Grls: [multiple voices + Jo] Phoenix

Grl: Phoenix yeah

Grl: and cause it's like big and like . long or plus he might have other favorite books and xxx might not know about it

Grl: probably because the- because they've read all of these and they want-

Jo: the first four yeah

Grl: the first four then they want to go onto the . g- the Order of the Phoenix

Jo: yeah

Grl: but then they start reading it and then find out it's like really boring . so they don't want to read it and it's really big

Jo: [overlapping] oh [laughs] Josie's face is looking shocked there [laughs]

Grl: I've got

Grl: like they find out . and and they think it's really boring

Grl: it's not boring

[lots of laughter]

Grl: I know I'm just saying I'm just saying

[laughter]

Jo: don't be upsetting Josie Ellie [laughs]

Grl: like they find . like they think it's really boring and it's really too long and then they stop reading it and then go xxx

Jo: okay okay so what type of what what kind of person do you think might feel like that . who

Grl: adult

Jo: adults okay wha- any other types of xxx

Grl: probably

Grl: probably people that don't really read books that much

Jo: okay

Grl: [quietly] xxx my sister

Grl: that like to read books that have like one hundred pages or so

Jo: okay

Grl: or like 58 pages or something

Grl: well when I was when I used to be little I . I always looked at the back of the page and see how many pages there were [door opens]

Jo: oh okay

Grl: and it was always like one hundred and fifty and stuff so . I was all like . okay

Jo: okay

Grl: erm and then I never read these books and then I now think that people might look at the back and think it's very long for them to read

Jo: okay . so

Grl: I-

Grl: I think that

Jo: go on Helen

Grl: when I it might there might be people who don't . they xxx don't really like erm reading so they read one and they think they want to read it in one day but they don't have time and then they don't want to spend all the time reading books so they get . don't want to read

Grl: so they don't read the rest of the books

Grl: yeah

Grl: yeah

Grl: [quietly] so they read half of it or something xxx

Jo: okay . any other thoughts there on what kind of people or wh- why they might not want . JAz

Grl: well erm . you know that the long books like the Order of the Phoenix well people might not like it because erm it it's more like . they explain it more than the movies that you watch like they explain more things than the movies

Jo: you mean there's more in the book than there is ah okay

Grl: xxx also erm I th- . the reason why I started reading them was because . the film obviously and . and so what my mum always said to me too . that . books are more . more has more description about the film

Jo: ah

Grl: so I thought if I read the first one I'll might get into it and like it might be more fascinating for me than the film

Jo: and was it

Grl: yeah

Jo: yeah good . [laughs] okay . now do any of you think that reading these Harry Potter books has helped you to improve your reading in any way

Grls: [multiple voices] yeah

Jo: okay so

Grl: especially with like the long words and like the hard words and like made you learn like about like the word and like even the words that you don't know and like instead of like other people just like ignore it and just go on . well erm like some people who's like really interested in Harry Potter books they just like try and find out like the word for it first so it improves it like the long words or the hard words

Grl: erm I liked the erm we- so when I first read them it was kind of complicated then I got the hang of it and then my dad always told me . er to erm . write . write the words that you don't know what they mean and try to pronounce it and write them down on a piece of paper once you finish the book and you've got like loads of words look them up in the dictionary and I would read it again and I'll understand the words

Jo: brilliant and have you done that

Grl: yeah

Jo: that's a good idea . excellent

Grl: it's

Grl: erm

Jo: anybody else want to share how they think these books have improved their reading go on Nikki

Grl: it's made me read more thicker books like bigger books

Jo: ah okay . good . anybody else find that

Grl: well xxx like the hard words xxx I just I just tried to pronounce it and I think they're like right and it just and when I read it it was like [door opening?] it was I erm it was like I really want to read the rest when I first read the first one and when I got on to one of the last ones it w- the words got harder as you go along but . [door opening?] then . it helped me because I want to read more thicker books now than just short books

Jo: okay right xxx . . okay so anybody else want to share how it's improved their reading [running water]

Grl: when I xxx

Grl: erm . yeah when I first xxx

Jo: ah go on . go on Hailey you go first

Grl: when I first read like . erm the Order of the . fo- Phoenix I always thought it was Phoenix [pronounced FO-nix] instead of Phoenix

[background talking - other people?]

Jo: ah okay

Grl: erm

[clinking glass?]

Jo: go on Ellie you were going to say something

Grl: when . when I started to go to the . erm Order of the Phoenix and above .

Jo: yeah
[crumpling sound, background noises]

Grl: I erm . the words that . like at the beginning of the book . the words aren't really that hard but as I go along I use the other words that I've already read to help me erm understand the words . that I'm reading right now so erm it did help me improve . my reading

Jo: excellent

Grl: also it did help me read faster too

Jo: ah anybody else think it helped them to read faster

Grl: yeah

Grl: yeah

Jo: yeah . okay . okay . right now do you think that reading Harry Potter's encouraged you to read other things

Grls: [multiple girls] yeah yes

Jo: mmm

[voices in background]

Grl: specially like the specially Order of the f- Phoenix cause that that's long and then l- l- that's like really big the book so so then you want to just read more cause you know that you can read the big books so want so you know you can read other books as well as the big books

Grl: Hailey can I say something

Jo: okay Ellie

Grl: actually Deathly Hallows is the biggest book because the the writing gets smaller . and the . and the pages get thinner so [Jo laughs] I think I think Deathly Hallows is the longest book although Order of the Phoenix looks quite big

Jo: mm

Grl: anyway the . the books did help me read other things because . when I finished reading all the Harry Potters I went on to Phillip Pullman . cause the books were kind of like . the Harry Potter size so . started reading . them

Jo: right

Grl: also erm . it helped . Ellie gave me this book . this Ellie erm she gave me a book one of her books and I read it and I asked if she has another one and I'm nearly finished the book

Jo: ah

Grl: but it's about for for it all started about a girl breaking in school

[background noise, running water, whispering]

Jo: w- which one's it was oh this is a a a

Grl: yeah it's one of her books about a girl breaking into school to find something

Jo: ah okay

Grl: it it's made me read more books like Harry Potter like magical ones like . xxx

Jo: okay can you remember any specific books

Grl: no

Jo: no okay . you xxx to say something there cause you xxx .

Grl: no

Jo: okay . right now erm . . my next question was whether . erm so y- you've . whether you've seen the book . read the . seen the film read the book and if you've done both which you did first but I think you ans- all answered that at the beginning did you you all saw the films before you started reading the books right

Grl: I only saw the first the first one and like when I was up to number four I think I saw the rest of the films

Jo: okay

Grl: and I think I was on . and I think saw all the films before I started Deathly Hallows

Jo: right

Grl: also

Jo: okay

Grl: erm . erm when I first watched the first one . my mum got the boxed set after the film had another pic- erm a diagram of on the . film it's had a picture of a diagram of the next Harry Potter

Jo: okay

Grl: so it made me more excited about the . xxx

Jo: right . now erm can anyone think of something that the books did better than the film erm anything at all that when you were reading the book you thought it was better than the film

Grl: erm

Grl: they they kind of like . . described it more like xxx the film

Grl: yeah

Jo: s- sorry say that again JAz th- that .

Grl: they . they kind of describe-

Jo: more description right

Grl: because

Grl: yeah

Grl: just in the just in the like films you just have like the mov- like the f- like the

Grl: it shows it

Grl: yeah but in the f- in the books it tells you actually what it ha- really happens . not like . like . not all the films like tell you all the things but in the books it does like gives you more description

Jo: okay

Grl: erm

Grl: well I

Jo: go on Nikki . oh sorry xxx

Grl: erm the des- I liked it more xxx it tells you about it because it's like . when you watch the film it's like . and then you . then you read the book and you th- and you think that I didn't see that in the film

Jo: ah

Grl: and that gives more description and stuff

Jo: okay does anybody else feel like that when when they read the book they thought there was more in in the book than there was in the film

Grl: he- when-

Grl: yeah

Grl: when the words when he can't come erm they have like complicated words that makes you want to find the word that's the meaning and then the other then there's . then oh I know in the first one I like when they when miss when the teacher introduces them to the hall erm . it has a song the ha- the hat song

Jo: oh the sorting hat

Grles: [multiple girls] yeah

Grl: oh yeah xxx song

Jo: did you think that was better in the book than the film

Grl: yeah cause they didn't really do the song

Grl: yeah

Grl: they didn't put it they didn't put the song in the film

Jo: ah

Grl: I- I- I rea- I read the song over and over again because I enjoyed it

Grl: yeah I I put a bookmark I made a little bookmark just to stick it in the . song bit

Jo: [laughs] okay

Grl: I I did that for the tale of the three brothers in the Deathly Hallows I put a bookmark

Grl: [intake of breath] oh yeah

Grl: in the book I've got

Jo: and is that is that in the film as well . yeah oh right yeah brilliant

Grl: yeah

Grl: yeah cause it cause it shows a dia- cause in the film it actually shows a . what do you call it like a scene while somebody's telling . story of the three brothers

Jo: okay

Grl: well there is a lot of description in the books but in the films they can't sh- they can't like have a narrator like telling them . telling them what you have to see

Jo: good good point

Grl: like the description so they have to like show it in a way

Jo: good point Nikki yeah . excellent . and any anything else that stands out from that you thought was better in the book when you were reading the book even characters or

Grl: erm like the character the like about the character like the the whole book . it just like . . like the film it just p- like . in a kind of way it just plain but in the books xxx like really good but like . . like . yeah so like the films are plain but they're they're like just real good the books so like stand out more than the films

Grl: also the characters they tell more about the characters and what we want to know and in the films they just say my name's Ron and my name's Hermione and stuff

Grl: and you can read the books more because it'll be in the library and the films will just be like if they if they're in the library then you have to play pay three pounds just to see them and you've got to bring them back but when you pay when you ask for a book then you can anyone can read it because you need to yeah use it with your library card and the l- the books are everywhere not and the films are just like on TV but mostly people don't watch it

Jo: okay

Grl: sometimes when I go to the library and Harry Potter's and I'm trying to find the Harry Potter what I want erm . I always feel like I don't I want to buy it because you can buy some like erm the book you can buy the book . in the library so I a- always ask my mum if I can buy it and it's like two pounds so cause I don't like bringing books back from the library

Jo: okay so anything else that erm that you liked better in the books than the films

Grl: Erm er I like . I like the way . they describe the characters and the way they and the way that JK Rowling actually puts more in the books than she does than they do in the movie

Jo: okay

Grl: because . it's more like interesting in the books than the movies so I like the books better than the movies

Jo: okay

Grl: yeah

[cough]

Jo: okay

Grl: I also like the pictures in front . think they're really good

Jo: okay . so any any characters that you think were better in the book than in the film

Grl: erm

Grl: Ron

Grl: Ron yeah

Grles: yeah [chorus of yeah]

Grl: Ron

Jo: okay . right

Grl: and . I thought Sirius Black was the . Sirius Black and Creature . w- were the were very good characters in the books than in the movies

Grl: yeah

Grl: cause Sirius Black didn't really say anything in the movies . [quietly] Bellatrix is good

Grl: [quietly] yeah

Grl: and Harry Potter . cause

Jo: Harry was better in the book

Grl: he's a xxx character

Grl: yeah more description

Grl: actually he chats a lot

Jo: w- w- what were you going to say Josieh about

Grl: erm Bellatrix is good in the books

Jo: better in the book than the film

Grl: yeah

Jo: okay

Grl: also erm . when I . when I read the book . . erm . . when I read

[Door Opens]

Woman: Josieh can I have you sorry

Jo: alright thanks Josieh

Grl: erm when I read the first book it . I liked the part where it cracks me up when when Hermione on the train said you got a little dirt h- did you know just right there [laughs]

[others laugh]

Grl: no it's just assembly . we've got to go at like . the break's xxx

xxx

Grl: don't don't don't worry you can you can xxx assembly

[overlapping] xxx

Jo: I didn't want to be biting into your play time that's all okay

Grl: It's okay about xxx

Grl: I think this is better than

Grl: play time play time you can go into play time

Jo: [overlapping] okay right w-

Grl: but . assembly

Jo: we're nearly done now anyway

Grl: at least you don't have to learn songs of Robin of rod- Robin Hood

[laughter]

Grls: yeah

Jo: right okay so I've only got a couple of questions left anyway but so was there anything else that anyone wants to share about what you think the books did better than the film . or has everyone said everything they want to there

Grls: yeah everything

Jo: okay . right now one final question then have you ever shared any of the books with a friend or I know I know Tammy you said that Ellie lent you . erm one of them did she . anybody else share their books

Grl: [overlapping] yeah erm I got my I got my friend into Harry Potter and she really really likes it now

Jo: yeah

Grl: cause I said erm . there's this there's this boo- these books out called Harry Potter and she said what's that about and I went . well someone called Harry Potter and erm [laughs]

[Jo and girls small laugh]

Grl: and then she said erm alright then and I said do you want me do you want to lend one and I went and she went okay then and she she couldn't take her eyes off it

Jo: brilliant

Grl: and then she like like when she especially when she got into the middle . she

Jo: okay

Grl: she really liked it

Grl: well everybody's done this in school . borrowed a book from school

Jo: ah . they have them in the library yeah

Grls: [multiple voices] yeah

Jo: yeah okay

Grl: I don't I don't think they have them in the library . I think they

Grl: I don't think they have Harry Potter books

Grl: no they don't have Harry Potter in the li-

Grl: yeah they do

Grl: they do

Grl: no I mean the library xxx

Grl: yeah they do

Jo: the school library do they

Grl: yeah they do

Grl: seriously

Grl: yeah they do

Jo: yeah oh okay you've borrowed one from them

Grl: yeah well

Grl: I think . I think they've got one xxx four

Grl: we have this one in our class

Grl: they have one they have two and they have four

Grl: yeah

Grl: we've got on-

Grl: they've got Deathly Hallows

Grl: we've got that one and that one in our class

Grl: [overlapping] and they say it has swear words in it and it does not it's only Ron saying all these words . which aren't swear words

Grl: no we don't

Grl: yes we do

Grl: I thought we had xxx

Grl: we do . we have them three

Grl: no we don't

Grl: we do . we do

Grl: like saying bloody hell and all that

Grl: where

Grl: on the shelf

Jo: okay . okay so one at a time so that I can so I can hear it . erm so have you . so anyone else shared a Harry Potter book with a friend . Helen

Grl: well I tried I told my friend that Harry Potter books are really good and stuff so . but she said well I'm already reading something I kept trying to get her into it but she was xxx

Jo: right okay and and did you lend her one of the books and she didn't

Grl: well I gave I gave her one not for keep just to borrow and she . I think she read it but I don't think she really liked it

Jo: okay okay and JAz

Grl: well . one of my friends erm . she she has like erm . she had all of the books erm when they first came out and then erm she . she gave me the first one which was Chambers of Secrets and I really . I really liked it so . and then we started like swapping one of my books for one of those books to read and yeah

Jo: ah brilliant

Grl: you mean she gave you the first one the s- Philosopher's Stone

Grl: she didn't give me it but

Jo: lent you it . yeah . yeah

Grl: [overlapping] lent you so she lent you the Philosopher's Stone

Grl: [overlapping] Philosopher's Stone

Grl: [overlapping] like xxx one

Xxx

Grl: that's the American version

Grl: I read the Chamber of Secrets first

Grl: erm

Jo: ah

Grl: erm when . I've xxx out . cause I'm the my mum lent me the Harry Potters and then she's saying xxx cause they're in my bedroom cause erm . I don't give my sister privilege to go in my room and take a book

Jo: [laughs]

[background noises, clinking, water running]

Grl: so I do lend her my books cause she she's kind of like a Harry Potter fan and then sometimes I sometimes when I was in Christ Church erm people kept you had like books in year one like Harry Potter books and the the teacher kept on reading them to us

Jo: okay

Grl: so

Jo: right . well it th- if no one else has anything else to say we'll we'll finish there .
okay

Grl: well we need to go longer to xxx assembly

Grl: yeah

[laughter]

Grl: well my . out of all of . out of all of the books my favorite part out of all of the
books is when Ron swears and when Hermione starts telling them off and h-
and I like it when Snape hits them with a book

[laughter]

Grl: oh and also I also like I also like the part I can't remember which one it's the
one I think it's erm . that one where they save erm

Grl: the Prisoner of Az-

Grl: Sirius Black

Grl: yeah yeah the one where they save Black erm .

Grl: Prisoner of Azkaban

Grl: Prisoner of Azkaban erm where Hermione has this time traveling thing and
then

Grl: [overlapping] oh yeah that one

Grl: [overlapping] [multiple voices] yeah

Grl: they go they go to the next class and she in the film she says oh it's not like I
can change time and do all my classes at the same time

[Jo laughs]

Grl: cause she keeps on popping out of classes and they don't even see her so

Jo: okay

Grl: I don't xxx

Grl: [loudly] yeah oh that's what I found the confusing bits . and the confusing bit was when when she described how she she wasn't missing all her classes where she kept on going to them so so she used the timeturner

Jo: yeah

Grl: so she went to one class then another and another all on the same time

Grl: but Dumbledore gave

Grl: [loudly] using using the timeturner

Jo: you liked that bit

Grl: yeah Dumbledore gave it to her and then she didn't . but Hermione didn't know what to do with it so then she started off using it for class classes but then she knew one day she'll have to use it and then the when when erm that bird was gonna get erm head chopped off . unfortunately

Grl: Buckbeak

Grl: yeah Buckbeak erm they they Harry Potter one erm

Grl: no it was just Hermione and Harry

Grl: oh yeah Harry Harry Potter

Grl: and Hermione

Grl: h- Hermione was . no it was Hermione and Potter in one in . erm . Hogwarts house and someone chucked erm s- erm . s- a rock thing on Potter's thing and he

Jo: okay

Grl: kept it out and he went down the [pumpkin?] xxx

Grl: I don't get it I don't know if it's the last one . I think it's Deathly Hallows part one where

Jo: the film yeah . yeah

Grl: yeah where they're . like . all grown up and like they get lost in like a foresty type place and it's snowing

Jo: oh okay

Grl: and I don't . I don't know

Grl: oh yeah

Grl: [overlapping] oh yeah that's part that's part one . that's xxx

Grl: [overlapping] yeah it's really confusing when they like

Grl: [overlapping] that's because they

Jo: what is it that you find confusing is it

Grl: like when they move around I I don't xxx

Grl: I know why erm they was hiding from . erm

Grl: they were hiding

Grl: xxx the sword

Grl: hiding from the people

Grl: Voldemort's name was tabooed wasn't it

Grl: and and I don't know why Harry went into that frozen lake just to get a sword

Grl: [overlapping] oh to get a sword

Grl: [overlapping] it was to get the sword

Grl: [overlapping] the sword's to crack that erm necklace and then w-

Grl: Horcrux

Grl: yeah the Horcrux

Grl: I'd probably just get a piece of rope

[girl and Jo laugh]

Grl: it's too cold

Grl: and then it saw

Grl: yeah and then that Horcrux went

Grl: and the Horcrux kept him down in the water to kill him stop him from smashing

Grl: yeah the Hor- . also the Horcrux

Grl: and Ron pulled him out

Jo: you can tell you're all very big Harry Potter fans anyway we could sit here all day I think

Grl: and Ron pulled him o- out . Ron Ron ran away then he found Harry and pulled him out . . thank god Ron was there

Grl: yeah but . they was gonna they was gonna erm smash it but s- something came

Grl: wasn't there a deer

?: a deer

Grls: yeah yeah

Grl: yeah there was a deer

Grl: that was that was Snape's er patronus

Grls: yeah

Grl: he sent it because Snape loved Lily he had the same patronus as her

Grl: and then they guess they were even with Hermione and Harry Potter because they both snapped each other's wand

[some laughs]

Grl: I I I don't in in part one I don't really like the part where he smashes a Horcrux and Harry and Hermione

Grl: that's part two

Grl: no that's part one where they're kissing Hermione and Harry

Grl: [laughs]

Grl: oh yeah

Grl: oh yeah

Grl: yeah

Grl: remember it's like that and Ron like goes absolutely mad and

Grl: mental

Grls: yeah

Grl: then and then and then he says smash it Ron

Grl: yeah he gets really annoyed

Grl: yeah cause it the Horcrux tell the Horcrux erm . erm shows what they think what's happening . what's happened so

Grl: yeah what they what Ron

Grl: what they want to see

Grl: what Ron doesn't really want to see

Grl: well yeah in other words

Jo: okay right well erm thank you very much girls okay that's been really really useful we've got lots of interesting data there now so thank you very much do you do you have any questions for for me

Grl: no

Grl: no

Jo: no

Grl: when did you start to get into Harry P- Harry Potter books

Jo: me . oh that would've been when I was probably when I was pregnant with Lily's big sister Maddy . and I used to read them on the train on the way to work I had a three quarter of an hour train journey and I and I used to read them

Grl: when did you get Lily into Harry Potter books

Jo: Lily that was probably Maddy yeah . I don't know you'd have to ask Lily that

Grl: and then Maddy passed down the books

Jo: yes yeah although we've only got two left in our house cause they get lent out to nanas and aunties and

Grl: oh

[laughter]

Grl: who's your favourite character

Jo: my favorite character oh . [intake of breath] I don't know . . xxx thought about that who's my favorite character . I like Hermione . . how about you what's your favorite character

Grl: erm it's either Tonks or Cho Chang

Jo: ah

Grl: mine's Ron

Grl: I think

Jo: yours is oh yeah we've got Ron on this side of the room

Grl: [overlapping] Neville Longbottom [laughs]

Grl: [overlapping] I think I like er . I think I like Hermione because she's one of the funny characters . she's the only girl in the group and she can be bossy she can be nice she can be confusing she can be

Grl: she's the clever one

Grl: yeah

Grl: yeah she's so

Grl: yeah she's really clever

Grl: and she got a clump of cat hair which I found disgusting

Grl: yeah

Grl: [disgusted noise]

Grl: and drank and drank the

Grl: then she's like don't look at me don't look at me I'm a cat

Grl: [cat noise]

Grl: it wasn't it wasn't it wasn't her hair it was cat hair turns around and I found that bit kind of creepy when I f-

Grl: she got the wrong hair

Grl: yeah

Grl: yeah

Jo: [laughs]

Grl: and also er then they were argu- I xxx it's the one erm . they they was arguing about erm . about the potion that they had to make . cause it took like a month to make

Grl: was it a month

Grl: yeah and then she got it wrong

Grl: yeah she got it wrong

Grl: she she didn't got it wrong get it wrong she got it right but she cho- but she took the wrong hair

Grl: yeah

Grl: and she had to go to hospital wing and . I felt sorry for her

Grl: oh I also I also like the one erm . that that one the Chamber of the Secrets

Grl: [overlapping] the Chamber of Secrets

Grl: where they're on the train track

Grl: yeah w- where sh-

Grl: yeah where they're on the train

Grl: oh I feel really sorry for Hermione when she gets petrified

Grl: yeah when she froze . and I was all confused of what's doing this to these people

Grl: it's the Basalisk

Grl: it's

Grl: yeah it's

Grl: cause then Ron and Harry have to figure it out for themselves

Grl: yeah

Grl: [overlapping] I like I like the I like the way

Grl: yeah

Grl: yeah but Hermione left a note in it a note on the er thing and it xxx

Grl: I like the way they don't actually get killed like erm some guys saw it through the . saw it through the ghost and and the little boy saw it through the camera and Hermione saw it from her mirror

Jo: mm

Grl: and because it was flooded somebody else saw it on the reflection

Grl: I also

Grl: of the so if you actually looked it in the eye you would've died

Grl: I also didn't like it when er

Grl: even if it was in a reflection or anything

Grl: if it was in a reflection then they would've died

Grl: I also didn't like it when do you know that erm the cat the erm

Grl: oh yeah she got petrified

Grl: yeah petrified

Grl: and hung on a lamp

Grl: and yeah and he blamed it on Harry Potter cause Hermione because Hermione xxx Harry Potter cause he was the first one there

Grl: Filch

Grl: Filch yeah

Grl: Filch blamed it on Harry

Grl: and then also it was funny when
[high pitched noises/words?]

Grl: Fluffy oh the dog Fluffy the three headed

Grl: [overlapping] oh yeah Fluffy

Grl: [overlapping] it was funny cause the dog's called Fluffy

Grl: [overlapping] oh yeah

Grl: [overlapping] I love Fluffy

Grl: [overlapping] called really Fluffy when it's like really like really mad

Grl: it's this big feisty dog
[laughing]

Grl: yeah . so I don't know why it's called
[growling noises]

Grl: [overlapping] they named it all nice nice but he's actually a feisty dog

Grl: [overlapping] nice Fluffy

Grl: [overlapping] and I find I find erm Hagrid very funny cause he talks too much and he gives everything away

Grl: [laughs]

Grl: yeah and his big beard

Jo: yeah I like Hagrid actually he might be my favorite xxx Hermione

Grl: yeah

Grl: Madame Maxime he's really s- small compared to

Grl: [overlapping] oh have you watched erm . have you watched erm . Harry Potter and the puppet pals . well

Grl: yeah like [singing] Snape

Jo: is this another Youtube thing

Grl: [singing] Snape Severus Snape

Jo: oh yes I have heard that one

Grl: yeah it's erm Ha- Ho Hogwarts one one one yeah

Jo: that's an earworm for me Lily's always listening to that

Grl: one has xxx and erm erm Harry Potter took it to erm Hogwart and Hogwarts said I know the thing and he got a erm a tennis racket and bashed it and then xxx erm erm Harry Potter said I know who else has got xxx and said can I borrow that and smashed everyone's head o- down

Jo: nice

Grl: I'm on Pottermore

Jo: oh right yeah . yeah

Grl: [overlapping] yeah I'm on Pottermore I'm a Slytherin

Grl: [overlapping] me and Josieh

Jo: are you

Grl: I'm the I'm the o- I'm the only Slytherin in the class

Grl: I'm the only Ravenclaw

Grl: I'm Gryffindor

Grl: [overlapping] everyone else is in Gryffindor

Grl: [overlapping] xxx Gryffindor

Grl: you go and you so if you want to go on Pottermore you just type Pottermore in that Google bit

Grl: yeah

Grl: then click on it

Grl: then you sign up

Grl: and then and then the little bit in the middle you s- press sign up

Grl: yeah

Grl: but first click the video that's on the rightish on your computer . anyway it's good potions are hard

Grl: but but at the moment you just need to wait for her to do chapters

Grl: why did you make the potion

Grl: yeah you can make potions you can do spells you can duel and you can find things during the chapters

Grl: yeah and if

[door opens, someone tells the group to wrap up?]

SS1 Girls 7-8

Jo okay (.) right (.) yeah we've left it four minutes so shall we just go for it (.) OK right well first of all um (.) thank you all very much for agreeing to take part in this discussion and of course for filling in the um (.) the online questionnaire on the Harry Potter books (.) now my name's Jo (.) um now I'm from Lancaster University in the Linguistics Department and (.) there we're doing a study on Harry Potter books and their um (.) young people's attitudes towards the books (.) OK (.) so um what we're going to do today is called a focus group and that just means that I'm going to ask you some questions and then I'd like you to just have a chat about the (.) about your answers (.) now there are no right or wrong answers we're just really interested in what you have to say it's not a test so just be honest (.) um you're free to say what you like when you like (.) and you don't all have to agree (.) um but please try not to talk over each other don't interrupt that kind of thing give everyone a chance to speak if they want to (.) but of course you don't have to join in on a particular question if you don't want to either (.) OK (.) so is everyone comfortable yeah (.) everyone all right (.) OK (.) now you've probably noticed this machine here (.) now this is just simply so that I don't have to sit here like this trying to write down everything you say I can just type it out later and it means I'm free to just um sit here and listen to you rather than scribbling away (.) it will be deleted the recording as soon as I've typed it out (.) and your teachers won't hear it and you'll all be given fake names as well (.) OK right

G do we get to choose our fake name now

Jo you can yeah well maybe at the end you could leave a suggestion of your fake name (.) OK so do you have any questions before we start (.) no OK (.) right now first of all can we just go round just for the recording and and for in case you don't know each other as well just say your name and the year that you're in just quickly so

G Emily Year Eight

Jo Emily Year 8

G Sasha year

G Liz Sperin

Jo Ah (.) fantastic we've got Liz (.) is it An- (.) hello Liz are you all right (.) um come on in and sit down (.) glad you've joined us (.) so you're Liz Sperin fantastic (.) can I'm glad you've joined us so you're A S (.) right can I ask you first of all to just write your name on a label and um put it there on on your blazer (.) now you've not missed much I was just saying that um (.) we're doing a focus group (.) and um that basically means that I'm going to ask some questions and then I just want you to have a chat about your answers (.) and um (.) it is being recorded but it's just so that I don't have to type everything uh lis- scribble everything down I can type it out later (.) it'll be deleted afterwards and you'll be given a nice false name as well (.) OK so we're just about to go round the table and say just your (.) your name just your first name and the year that you're just in case you don't all know each other (.) OK so Emily just said Emily Year (.) Year

G Year 8

Jo Year Eight

G Liz year 8

Jo Liz Year Eight

G Sasha Year 7

Jo Sasha Year Seven

G Dee Year Seven

Jo Dee Year Seven

G Karen Year Seven

Jo excellent (.) OK perfect (.) now the first few questions are not specifically about HP they're just about reading habits in general (.) OK so (.) um I'd just be really interested to hear what kinds of things you're reading now (.) you know if you were to (.) sit down and have a read what would it be right now

G um (.) these horror books I'm reading about zombies

Jo oh lovely

G Charlie Higson

Jo Charlie Higson (.) Higs- is it Higson

G I'm not sure

Jo I'm not I've I've heard the name right OK brilliant (.) anybody else

G I read um (.) currently I'm kind of reading Pride and Prejudice at the moment (.) but I'm also quite keen in the sort of the books that kind of (.) the like Jacqueline Wilson and Anne Fine (.) um (.) Cathy Cassidy that sort of thing

Jo perfect yep (.) OK

G um I'm actually currently reading (.) um (.) My Sister's a Pop Star (.) I've just started reading it a few days ago and (.) I think it's interesting

J brilliant (.) OK

G I'm reading Tiger Wars by Steve Backshall at the minute

Jo ah

G and I like reading Lauren St. John books

Jo Lovely

G um I like reading like historical books and stuff like (.) and I also

J like non-fiction or fiction

G um fiction books (.) and um (.) I also read like um (.) um Jacqueline Wilson

J yeah yeah she's a firm favourite Jacqueline Wilson (.) OK and what about um magazines or anything like that is there anything else you like to read you know or non-fiction anything (.) yeah

G uh (.) the football comic

J the football comic (.) ah brilliant and what team do you support

G Bolton

J who are they (.) you don't have to put your hand up when you just speak whenever you want it's just a chat there's

G a bit of a confession but I am quite keen on the Dr Who comics because I do like Dr Who

J OK brilliant (.) now that'll stay confidential

G I like reading things with One Direction in (.) just random magazines

G Oh yeah

J right brilliant (.) OK (.) anything else anyone wanting to add to that (.) no (.) OK (.) right and um (.) where do you tend to be when you do your reading where's your favourite place to sit down and have a read

G in my bedroom because like (.) if some people are around me and talking I can't concentrate and imagine the book

J right

G what's happening

J it has to be quiet (.) yeah (.) OK (.) and what time of day would that be

G um I usually read when I get into bed

J right in the in the evening bed time (.) yeah

G um (.) I read kind of like just before I go to sleep quite often because I can concentrate a bit more then (.) and also in the beginning of English lessons because we have to read then

J Ah right (.) excellent

G I read in the kitchen sometimes

J in the kitchen

G cos not many people go in there apart from me

J ah right OK

G I read when I go to bed

J when you go to bed yeah yeah

G when I go to bed

J yeah okay (.) excellent now um can any of you remember how you first heard about the Harry Potter books

G my mum

J your mum your mum was reading them was she or did she

G yeah (.) and we watched the movies (.) so

J ah right (.) OK (.) how about anybody else

G loads of people started reading it in my primary school

J OK (.) and what year would that have been in can you remember

G Five

J Year Five (.) OK

G my cousin (.) does or like loves Harry Potter and so we watched the film and (.) the film didn't like it didn't have as much in it as the book so I thought I'll read the book

J OK

G um we just had them on the shelves (.) and my mum read them to me

J brilliant (.) OK can you remember how old you would have been then

G Um about six or seven

J right (.) yeah (.) OK

G when I was like (.) I've been reading them or my mum's been reading them to me since I was like six (.) um obviously I do sometimes read them myself now (.) but uh (.) not six like (.) one (.) I watched the films when I was like one (.) and then for ages I just left it and I didn't watch them again and then I forgot what happened at the end of Philosopher's Stone which was good because it was a little surprise for me

J ah brilliant (.) OK (.) anybody else (.) remember (.) how you heard about the books (.) no

G I started reading them more when I went to watch The Deathly Hallows Part 1 at the cinema (.) which was the scariest thing I've ever seen in my life (.) when the snake jumps out at you

G um I like the bit in the film which is Deathly Hallows Part 2 where Voldemort explodes (.) because um if you see it in 3D I actually watched it twice in 3D once at um (.) a birthday thing for my friend and once with my parents (.) and the 3d gla- and the bits of um ash and stuff which was Voldemort comes flying out at you

J right and have you read that that section in the book as well (.) how did it compare

G um (.) well I've read all the books and (.) quite often they were missed out and (.) especially in this one there were bits they put in that weren't actually there

J in the they put in the film that weren't in the book you mean

G Yeah

J Right

G and there's always the best line that we ever think was in the Philosopher's Stone book (.) which they missed out of the film we were irritated which was (.) um (.) Snape's quizzing Harry and saying (.) do you know what a toad weasel is and stuff and Hermione's sat there kind of (imitates her) (.) and then she went (.) and then in the book he says I don't know Sir but I think Hermione's got a good idea why don't you ask her (.) and then he gets a detention for it (.) but um (.) and they missed that out of the film which I think's a bit

J right (.) no that's interesting (.) OK so now some of you have already mentioned this (.) but um can some of you others remember a parent or another grown up reading and (.) to when you were younger the Harry Potte books

G Yeah

J yeah yeah (.) ever everybody had it read to read to them when they were younger but Sasha and Veronika you didn't

G my mum's reading them to my little brother

J right now (.) right ah right yeah (.) OK (.) yeah (.) and do you do you remember being read to when you were young when you were really really young do you remember having bedtime stories when you were really really young

G not like Harry Potter

Various Girls Yeah/ no

G I do actually (.) not Harry Potter I did have (.) um well the thing is what happened was when I was kind of like very little um I used to read like Rainbow Magic and Oxford Biff and Kipper that sort of a thing (.) um and my parents would sometimes read them to me and then as I got older and when I was about six everyone else had started reading the Rainbow Magic Biff and Kipper stuff that I read when I was that they read to me when I was very young (.) but by that time I'd got my parents to start reading the Artemis Fowl and (.) Harry Potter and all these massive long novels

J oh OK yeah (.) and Dee and Sasha you don't remember being read to when you were really really young

G No cos I was (.) I'm (foreign?) so

J Ah right

G my mum read me (.) my mum read me the um (.) all the Famous five (.) and the secret seven

J right OK (.) and Emily and is it An- Liz (.) um what kind what kind of books can you remember being read (.)when you were

G when I was very young like (.) bedtime stories out of a big book and then like Famous Five and stuff

J Right

G The Hungry Caterpillar

J the Hungry Caterpillar yeah yeah (.) excellent

G Hairy Mclary

G something that I'm (.) that my parents used to read to me and I nearly threw out actually I've got a massive collection of them (.) is the Mister Men books (.) and a couple of years ago I was having a clear out and I was having a clear out of all my books and I saw (.) these Mr Men books and said OK we can get rid of those and Mum was kind of like ah don't just let me read it to you one last time (.) and she read one to me and I ended up killing myself laughing (.) and um I just said OK we not going to throw those out (.) and I've actually currently because I've been couldn't be bothered to read anything else I've actually just picked up all my Mister Men books and I've got through all of them over about three nights

J brilliant (.) no I love Mr Men books as well (.) I think Mr Bump was always my my favourite (.) OK right so can anyone remember (.) what made you want to read your first Harry Potter book on your own

G my brother (.) he was he is thirteen he was only a little bit older than me and he read them so I wanted to read them

J right OK (.) and how old would you have been then

G um (.) I would have been about (.) maybe about nine or ten

G I wanted to be like my brother so I read like him

J so brothers have a big influence yeah (.) on your reading

G My brother's younger than me so

J Ah

G I like um (.) I started reading them like more when I when I got the um (.) the first edition one because the bookshop was selling them (.) off for like 99 p of (.) that one and that one so I bought them both

J what's that the Half Blood Prince and the Order of the Phoenix right OK

G um I remember the I think I read (.) the Philosopher's Stone on my own because (.) just cos I could remember it and (.) I think by that time that actually

G that's the Sorcerer's Stone that's not the Philosopher's Stone

J yes this is an American one yeah (.) um this was bought in America it wasn't me I've not been to America unfortunately but (.) um apparently they call it the Sorcerer's Stone over there for some reason (.) yeah

G um (.) so anyway yeah (.) um (.) the (.) like well (.) um well (.) when my mum was reading them to me I kind of like I read them not in order and (.) then I read I think at one point I want (.) I thought to myself I wLiz read the Philosopher's Stone cos then I haven't done that one yet (.) and I read that (.) and also the Goblet of Fire (.) we actually managed to collect all of them apart from that one (.) and I was just kind of like I want to get that one (.) so we bought that one and I've read it

J OK so you've read all seven haven't you (.) brilliant

G Well my parents have done it as well (.) but yeah

J OK and (.) what do you what is it that you like about the Harry Potter books

G They don't have to be realistic really

J right okay so it's the (.) the fantasy kind of aspect is it (.) OK what does everybody else think

G as he gets older he goes on like older adventures like (.) in the Philosopher's Stone it wasn't like (.) as big an adventure

J Ah

G if you read that one when you were like (.) seven maybe you would read the last one when you were like more like ten so it's sort of (.) it's quite good

J you grew up with them kind of thing (.) yeah

G they actually make you cry though (.) when Dobby died I cried

J Aw yeah (.) sad

G they (.) kind of like (.) they have more information in cos like (.) and quite often in the films if you see Ginny she's quite (.) um taken back not quite (.) too kind of she's a bit mousy and stuff (.) but if you read the book she's actually quite um strong willed and things (.) for instance I think there was one incidence (.) when I can't remember which book this was in (.) but I think she

pegged she hung someone up on a clothes peg and (.) beat him up I think (.) she did that because they were insulting her or Harry or Hermione or something

J right (.) okay um how about everybody else everyone said everything to say there (.) OK right (.) now um are there some things don't like about the Harry Potter books (.) is there anything you don't like about the books

G in (.) in every book there's like type of the same the same based adventure

J Ah right

G it's like (.) yeah (.) they could change it into something different

J okay

G sometimes it goes on a bit long especially like the bigger ones

G Yeah

J does that put you off picking the book up do you think

A lot of girls Yeah

G It's (.) it's a bit thick

G you get bored having to take it to school (.) because it's very heavy

G I like thicker ones

J OK

G then I don't have to bother changing it

J right (.) OK well of course everyone's got a kindle now haven't they or they will have eventually

G I have

G I don't want one

J do you have HP on your kindle

G No I don't use it for books

G I have like a Books Only kindle and (.) that's a good one because I can just (.) read whatever I want (.) but I've not got a Harry Potter on (.) because if I want a HP book I just go down stairs and I've got them all

J right (.) yeah yeah (.) OK (.) right now is or has Harry Potter ever been your favourite fiction (.) at any point in your life was it your your favourite has it ever been is it now

G Yeah I think so

G Yeah

J some of you are nodding (.) sorry Liz

G it was when I was quite young I was quite impressed that I could read the big books

J ah right (.) yeah so it felt like a

G it felt like I was sort of older (.) because I could read the thick ones

G Yeah (.) my mum bought the first one on DVD and then (.) I started to like it (.) a lot

J OK (.) so that made you read the books

G Yeah

J right (.) OK

G I think there was one point it was my favourite book (.) um I j- (.) one of my favourite (.) and uh (.) uh there's something I haven't said about the difference between the books and the films (.) in Goblet of Fire it's kind of like I think that's the weakest because it's kind of all (.) as the film way (.) because it's kind of it's all sports and there's not much (.) goings on in the middle (.) but in that it's kind of like a mystery who put Harry's name in the goblet who's

J OK (.) yeah (.) yeah (.) OK (.) right so um how old would you have been when (.) Harry Potter was your favourite fiction

G like seven

J really right OK

G seven eight nine ten (.) probably not eleven because that's how old I am now (.) so yeah

J so quite a few years (.) right OK (.) has it ever been your favourite fiction

G No

J No for Dee

G Not really

J Not for Sasha

G um maybe when I was nine or ten

J right (.) okay (.) um why do you think some people don't like the HP books I know you've already said maybe the thickness put (.) people off (.) but we've already said that (.) just can you think of any other reasons why people might not like Harry Potter

G um (.) they're not really that scary or particularly (.) you you've got to think about all the different things in it there's not just sort of (.) one thing like it's not particularly scary it's not

romance there's lots of different things in it (.) so someone that likes romance wouldn't pick it up (.) someone who likes scary stuff wouldn't pick it up

J OK (.) OK

G I think it's because some bits can be a bit (.) like (.) when they killed the cat and (.) wrote with the blood it can be a bit (.) off-putting

J right

G when was that again

G not sure it was in one of the films but I'm not sure which it was

G Chamber of Secrets

J Hmm

G I don't like (.) how much they've (.) like they got quite a bit of like swearing (.) well not (.) like swearing

G well it does when it's Ron

G Yeah (.) yeah they often put the swearing in and like I think people

G yeah coz my brother watches it and he's only in Year 4 so (.) I don't really

J ah (.) right

G how often does he say um (.) a certain (.) almost catchphrase used by Ron Weasley

J right yeah (.) and that's in the book as well isn't it (.) yeah (.) yeah

J OK what what type of people don't read Harry Potter then do you think anyone got any opinion on that

G um (.) like people that are not really interested in fantasy more like something like really (.) sci-fi

J OK

G I think (.) people like my mum (.) well she does like Harry Potter but (.) she likes like real history books and

J OK

G stuff about architecture (.) and stuff

J OK

G um (.) kind of like some people like adults might think (.) just that (.) who maybe don't have kids might think oh it's a kids' book I don't need to do it (.) but adults who do have kids (.)

they might have to read it to their children (.) so then (.) um they might start to like it but adults who don't have children might just think (.) oh it's a kids' book I'm not gonna read it

J OK (.) and do you think boys read it more than girls or

G yeah

J do you yeah (.) how about the rest of you

G I don't

G no

G (I think it's even?)

J yeah

G yeah

G well it's it's all girls here so

J Well yeah no but that that's that's because we did a separate group for the boys this morning but (.) but there are two girls' groups and only one boys' group so there was more more girls filled in their questionnaire maybe (.) yeah (.) OK

G boys don't really (.) the boys don't really have time

J they don't (.) what sorry have

G they don't really have time they (.) don't really bother

J OK so what are they busy doing (.) while you're reading

G football

G dunno

G football

J football

G I play football more than read

G like any (.) after school or lunch

J ah right

G I've stopped like reading much now because I like football

G yeah

J OK

G and like (.) they might think like because like think about it (.) um there's two boys (.) some girls might think that (.) cos I'm just gonna use this as an example because it's got all three of the main characters on it (.) there's Harry and Ron and then there's Hermione and Hermione is the only girl (.) but I think the reason is because they had to give a gender to a (.) to the boy and then they wanted to give a girl friend and boy friend

J right (.) OK (.) yeah (.) and what does everybody how does everybody feel about that

G I just think that like sometimes it's girls (.) who there's two girls and two boys and it doesn't really matter it's just that the hero happens to be one gender

J right (.) OK (.) now um does anybody think that Harry Potter might have helped you improve your reading I know you said before you know you you felt you'd achieved something reading a bigger book did that make you go on to read bigger books

G Yeah (.) cos as you think well I've already read a book it's not quite as thick as the one I've already read so you might (.) be like not put off by the big book

J right (.) can you remember what you did go on to read after

G um (.) well I've (.) like there's like cos some of the Jacqueline Wilsons are quite thick (.) and although they might like (.) they might the words are quite big they might look like (.) I might not have picked it up if I hadn't read these books before

J OK

G I always used to find them a bit scary (.) but after that I was onto Private Peaceful and um (.) Jacqueline Wilson

G Yeah

J OK (.) and um (.) how about im- improving your reading (.) um does anybody think that it might have had an impact on (.) obviously you could read already

G yeah cos it had more tricky words in it so then you'd have to ask your parents what does mean and you like you can learn English as well

G I think there was *ornate* in that one (.) when um Voldemort was killing someone (.) and but yeah (.) I think it said they were at the Malfoys' house with their ornate table (.) and the teacher was hanging over it or something

J and that word stuck out to you yeah

G I think (.) I think it helped me because like (I'd play on?) the read books with like a couple of words on (.) but then I started to read them and they had like full pages and no pictures

J OK

G it's like um (.) that but I had this snap and like before that I was reading like (.) you know the Rainbow Fairies and (.) so it's quite different

J Ah (.) yeah (.) that's quite a jump isn't it (.) from Rainbow Fairies onto the Philosopher's (.) right yeah

G what I don't understand is (.) um at like my primary school library in Year 6 and kind of like the library here they still have Rainbow Fairies and I can just they're just (.) stupid to me cos they're identical plots and now I think they've just got silly cos I used to love them (.) um but now they're going onto the green fairy the fashion fairy (.) and I'm just kind of like (.) you've just run out of things to make into fairies

J OK (.) right so um (.) how about maybe did it help you read faster did it help you um

Girls Yeah

J so we've already said it helped you (.) harder words

G cos when it's a scary bit you want to read it

J Right

G I read (.) the first Charlie Higson book is like that I think and I read it in a week

J really so it was what about two two inches thick something like that is it

G it is quite big

J and you read it in a week did you read that (.) as a result of reading HP

G yeah (.) my mum said it's like a fant- fantasy like Harry Potter (.) so she bought me it

J right (.) oh (.) OK so your mum bought you it because was a bit like HP

G now I'm a fast reader so

J excellent (.) OK

G I'm a really slow reader and I've read all of them so you know (.) I'm just really slow be- I think it's because (.) um if it's book that I've chosen myself to read then I'll go (noise) (.) but if it's a book that I have to read for school then I won't do it (.) I just don't why it just my psyche (.) and I think it's the rebel- the only rebellious streak in me (.) um (.) but I think that's how I rebel

J you're told to read something yeah no that's (.) that's normal I think (.) OK (.) right now um (.) I've already kind of asked you this one do you think it (.) um does anyone else think that reading Harry Potter might have encouraged you to read other things and you've already told me what you went on to read afterwards (.) um how about (.) can you remember what you read afterwards Karen

G I think it was Artemis Fowl (.) I think so (.) that's quite similar because that's got (.) but that's got fairies in it instead of wizards (.) but that's got magic in it so

J right (.) OK (.) again it's a there's a link there isn't it how about yourself Sasha

G um (.) I think I like (.) I don't know (.) I did like (.) I didn't know what to read next because like (.) it was different to what I'd read before (.) so I think I went on to the Lauren St John Laura Marlin

J Ah (.)OK (.)yeah

G because I like (.) I like mysteries better (.) because I'm still kind of reading that (.) I've been like I get bored of it (.) like I'm only on that one

J on the Goblet of Fire

G I've been reading it for like two years

G I've only read like (.)a sentence from this one

J right (.)OK

G I've read all of them but I don't I've never read them like (.) that one then that one then that one then straight in a line

J not in order (.) that's interesting yeah

G Yeah

G my brother used to just go through all of them (.) cos he's a really fast reader (.) but I haven't (.) I always just read about two and then I sort of got bored a bit and then I read another book and then I read two more or something like that

J right (.) OK

G I remember (.) I think The Prisoner of Askaban was best because it's

G Yeah

G I think I've we've got them four at home as well

G The Prisoner of Askaban was my favourite as well

J Prisoner of Askaban's your favourite as well (.) OK well in fact what I'd like to do now is just go round the table and ask you all which ones you've read and if you've also seen the film as well for that title and then if you have done both maybe what you've done first

G I have seen two films but I don't know what the book (.) I don't know what it's called

J Oh right (.) OK (.) right OK well if we could just sort so Liz you said you've read all seven books

G I've read all of them and I've read all the films

J and you've seen all the films can you remember did you see the films did you read the books first

G I think I've read all about these ones

J you've read up to the Order of the Phoenix

G and then two are the newer films so I've not I didn't see them (.) cos we got a box set of films with all them ones in but (.) I've not them two were after that

J and had you read all of these books up to the Order of the Phoenix before you saw any of the films or

G probably maybe the first one before and then the rest um after the films

J OK (.) and then you you've read the books after you'd seen the films for the rest of them other than the very first one

G other than the very first one

J OK

G I think I read that one first and then I think I went chronologically

J so you've read Half Blood Prince

G and then I went chronologically to Order of the Phoenix (.) and then I stopped (.) actually wait a minute (.) that one only came out when I was six and I'd already read them all by then (.) so yeah (.) I'm a quick (.) I was a quick reader when I was young (.) but um then I read that one

J OK and which of them did you read before you saw the film (.) or did you see the films first

G I saw the film first for all of them because (.) um I was pretty much brought up on HP (.) but and I only and my parents only started reading them to when I was five six that sort of age

J OK Karen right (.) OK and Emily how about yourself have you read all the books or

G I think I've read um The Goblet of Fire (.) and the Chamber of Secrets

J and did you read the books before (.) have you seen the films for both of those

G yeah

J which did you do first d'you think

G I seen the films for all of them but I think I read the books after

J after you read the books after the film (.) OK (.) and how about you Sasha

G um I've read all of them up to the (.) I've read (.) I watched the film for Philosopher' Stone and then the (.) Chamber of Secrets and then I read the books and then (.) I watched the film of Prisoner of Askaban and then read the book

J right (.) OK (.) and how about you Veronika (.) did you say you've not read any of the books

G Oh and I've watched that one

G I've (.) read (.) read a little bit of this one

J oh Prisoner of Askaban

G and I think I've seen the film of P or A (.) I've read I've seen a lot of the films but I don't know which ones

J OK

G um (.) I think (.) I've got all the films on DVD up to Order of the Phoenix and then I got Half Blood Prince and then I got Deathly Hallows part one but my parents are refusing to get me Deathly Hallows part two and I'm (.) in a bit of a mood about that (.) and also I think they have like these official video games (.) and for that I have (.) well first I got Chamber of Secrets then I got Prisoner of Askaban (.) then I didn't get Goblet of Fire but I did get Order of Phoenix (.) and then that got broke cos I took it over to a sleepover at my friend's house and it got broken (.) um and then I think for the DS we got Half Blood Prince

G I've (.) I've done the video games of them two

J of the first two

G but I never really got very good (.) at that (.) and then there was like one of the (.) I think the Prisoner of Askaban (.) and I didn't really play with them that much

J and do you usually do you like computer games usually (.) or is it

G yeah usually but it's just (.) they weren't that good

J right (.) OK

G I don't know if they're the official ones (.) I know that that one was the official one cos that was on the DS

J the Prisoner of Askaban right

G but those those two the first two they were (.) don't know

J OK (.) so it sounds like Prisoner of Askaban seems to be the favourite title is it (.) for the three of you I think (.) how about any of you others is it do you have a favourite

G I've got (.) that one on DVD (.) and another one (.) I think it's Chamber of Secrets I'm not sure (.) but (.) I like watched that one over again (.) if I have nothing else to watch

J OK (.) right now can you can anyone think of something that one of the books (.) so let's say a scene from the books that um (.) the book was better than the film (.) you know when you were watching the film did you ever think I think oh I preferred that bit in the books

Comment [SD1]: Multimodalities?

G I-

G with the post –

J go on Sasha

G I liked it when I think when uh (.) I think when um (.) in the (.) Chamber of Secrets (.) they don't really include (.) the flying car

J ah (.) in the film you mean

G yeah in the film

J so it was better in your imagination the flying car

G yeah (.) but in the book they like all describe and they're like

J Excellent OK (.) sorry Liz you were going to say something

G um I think that when they have the post owls they never really seem to be very good in the film because (.) they they none of them were carrying packages apart from Harry's it looked a bit (.) silly

J OK

G I (.) I've already said about the one in the Philosopher's Stone (.) but also in Deathly Hallows if you remem if um you remember when Harry dies (.) it's (.) in my imagination when Hagrid's bringing him back with (.) what we think is his dead body but obviously what what everyone else thinks but we know it's not real he's alive (.) which is quite

J if we've read the book

G if we've read the book (.) um but (.) I didn't do it (.) but um (.) but um in the film if I remember correctly kind of like Hagrid is not the same cos Hagrid's all tied up and bloody and stuff (.) that's not (.) I'm not using that offensively I'm using that in the logical (.) sense (.) um (.) and (.) it just (.) it wasn't quite as good because (.) I kind of imagined and I don't think Robbie Coltrane (.) could hold up Daniel Radcliffe's body that well (.) cos I kind of imagined him (.) kind of like holding him to the side kind of like that (.) um (.) and then Harry kind of peeking his eyes out (.) but that simply (.) um it didn't happen the same in the book

J it was better in the book right excell (.) how about um (.) Emily Sasha (.) Veronika (.) do you have any any scenes you can think

G Not sure

J right OK no problem

G um I think (.) like (.) well I didn't (.) I didn't (.) on some of them I watched the film instead of reading the book (.) because I find that if you watch the film then read the book (.) the book's not really (.) any use because it does because you know what's going to happen so you get a bit bored and you start skim reading

J right (.) OK (.) that's interesting

G I think the films are better because you don't have to hold anything up

J ah right OK

G but I still like reading

J yeah (.) OK (.) right now have any of you ever do you remember sharing one of your Harry Potter books maybe with a friend you know passing it on lending yeah (.) yeah getting a nod from Liz (.) a no from you you don't part with your Harry Potter books the way you said no then

G I don't (.) I don't part with any of my books

G I'm scared that somebody might break it

G yeah

G I did lend one of ours out but it's not back yet and

J ah yeah right (.) so this is why

G but (.) my friends don't read books too many don't read the same books as me (.) I think there was one instance where um I bought um (.) I've got Alice in Wonderland and my friend got it as well and we kind of we both read it but I had like a bit more in it cos I had Through the Looking-Glass at the back as well (.) and she didn't (inaudible) kind of a bit jealous so um she finished before me I don't think I finished it because I think I lost it (.) yeah I did I lost it but I found it again now and I've not started reading it again

J OK (.) right any any of you other three remember lending a book out (.) a HP book

G um (.) me and my auntie because I didn't know whether I'd like them at first (.) so I like I got it out from the library (.) and then with the second one my auntie got it like (.) she showed it to me but (.) and like I read it but (.) I never really oh yeah and I bought I borrowed one off a friend (.) because (.) yeah I didn't know whether I'd like it or not (.) but uh (.) they're harder to buy now because there's like (.) they've got all the front covers on and there's like three different types

J that's interesting yeah

G yeah cos I've got that cover when they try- when you're looking for the one you look for cover when you get that cover and it's like (.) you don't (.) it's not nice if you don't have the full set

G I think I remember (.) obviously I've not got that cover

J The Sorcerer's Stone

G yeah (.) I've got the uh one that's the same way as that

J the English version

G the the English version that's done by Bloomsbury (.) and all those are the same (.) that one I got one like that (.) that one is the same but that one I got one like that

J right (.) OK (.) that's the hardbacks there (.) okay (.) right well (.) um (.) that's all my questions really so um (.) do do any one you have any questions for me maybe about anything are you

G what is this work gonna go to what's gonna be the end product

J right (.) well what we're doing is um (.) there's a there's a lot opinions that you might read in the media and the newspapers how you know Harry Potter has improved children's reading (.) boys' especially (.) but there's not any solid evidence to support or refute that (.) so that's why we're we're doing these questionnaires and then we're having these chats with (.) actual young people to find out if it's actually if it actually has improved your reading (.) if you actually do think um that so (.) this this today will be very useful (.) and um we'll be um (.) publishing some articles in journals in some academic journals and um (.) possibly even writing a book as well so (.) um (.) so we'll actually have some some proof one way or the other whether HP (.) or maybe not proof (.) support I should say not proof (.) um but we'll have some support one way or another and actual young people's feedback on on this as well (.) so (.) thank you all very much

G can we choose our fake names

J oh you want to choose you fake names right OK (.) think we've got time for that we have we've still got five minutes (.) so (.) OK Liz what would you like

G um don't know

J you don't you don't care (.)Emily

G Ashley

J Ashley (.) right (.)OK

G can I be Rose

J Rose OK

G do we need a surname

J I'm not sure if we'll be allowed to do this (.) we'll I'll I'll have to look into this but um (.) um

G Robyn

J um right so Sasha wants to be Robyn (.) OK

G not as in the bird

J I'll spell I'll spell it with a Y then (.)Dee

G Rosie

J Rosie (.) that might be a little similar to Rose (.)but we'll see

G could she (.)I wanted

G I'll be Daisy then

J and how about about you Karen

G um Lily

J Lily (.) ah OK that's my daughter's name (.) OK lovely I'm not sure if we'll be able to do this but I'll I'll ask (.) OK well um (.) thank you all very much that's been (.) you've given us some really useful things to (.) to think about there (.) OK

G and I've still got some time to get to English

J excellent (.) is that far away

(Girls mutter about lessons they have)

J what time is your next lesson (.) ten to

G yeah about that

G um five to I think

G five to

J and then what time do you have lunch is that quarter to one

(Girls mutter in assent.)

(More muttering about lessons.)

SS1 Girls years 7 to 9 (Anonymised)

Jo - Researcher

Jo: okay well I think i think maybe I'll just introduce myself to you and then if anyone else does come along then that's great. So erm well firstly thank you all so much for erm agreeing to take part in this discussion and also of course for filling in the online questionnaire on the *Harry Potter* books. My name's Jo and I'm from the Linguistics department up at Lancaster University and we're doing a study on erm young people's attitudes towards the Harry Potter books erm so what we're gonna do today is called a focus group which means I'm just going to ask you some questions and I just want you to have a chat about it so erm there ae no right or wrong answers it's not a test in any way we're just really interested in your opinion so erm just be as honest as you can and just say what you want when you want okay? Erm so yeah like I say you are free to say what you like when you like and you don't all have to agree either but try not to talk over one another becasue I'm recording it so that I can type it up later I won't be able to tell what you're saying otherwise erm obviously give everyone a chance to speak if they want to and of course if you don't want to join in on a particular question then that's fine as well erm now you're probably all very aware of the machine here it's just so I don't have to sit here scribbling away writing down everything you say I will simply type it out later and then we'll delete it so your teachers won't hear the recording and you'll all get a fake name as well when it is typed up or if it's in any future publications, anything like that erm I think that's all I need to tell you erm so is that has anyone got any questions is everyone happy?

[inaudible sounds of agreement]

Jo Yeah? now erm first of all I think because possibly you don't all know each other but if you could just go round and say your name and just the year you're in erm so if we could start with you is it=

Kay =I'm Kay I'm in year 9

Sam Erm I'm Samantha I'm year 9

Jo okay

Fay I'm Faye I'm in year 11

[door opens and another girl enters]

Fay Hi sorry I'm late

Jo Oh hi, come on in hh sorry what's your name?

Car I'm Cara

Jo Cara right brilliant okay now I've just erm I've just introduced myself and said oh if I could just ask you to write your name on a label and just stick it on your blazer that would be

brilliant erm so I was just saying that basically how is going to work is I'm going to ask you all some questions and I just want you to have a chat about it it's not a test erm you know you don't have to answer if you don't want to erm and feel free to talk when you want okay? hh right now we were just going round the table and just simply saying your name and the year that you're in so Kay has just said Kay year 9 so Cara?

Car erm year 9

Jo year 9 as well

Sam Samantha year 9

Jo Samantha year 9

Fay Faye year 11

jo Faye year 11

Pho Phoebe year 11

Ros Rose year 10

Sue Sue year 10

Jo Right brilliant okay now erm the first few questions are not specifically about Harry Potter they're more about your reading habits in general erm so erm I just wanted to know really what kinds of things you're all reading at the minute if you were to start reading now what would it be likely to be?

Kay fantasy

Jo fantasy is it a specific author that you're reading or is it

Kay er no I don't like reading specific authors I like the genre as you get a wide variety of different writing

Jo fabulous okay anybody else?

Fay I like fantasy and science fiction but also the historical ones I'm currently reading *Jane Eyre* I do in particular like science fiction and fantasy

Pho I also love the classics like *Pride and Prejudice* but at the minute I'm reading *Match by Ally Condy* which is like a future set novel

Jo lovely okay anybody else want to share what they're reading and you know it can be anything a magazine or you know anything

Ros I like like fantasy and classics but erm I do editing work so I get like loads and loads of different books so I just like enjoy reading lots of different things

Jo wonderful okay . so has everyone said everything . yeah? no you don't have to talk if you don't want to that's fine and erm I think sorry Kay wasn't it? Kay's already told us what she likes to read generally, you said that fantasy was it?

Kay yeah

Jo she likes fantasy what about everyone else what's your the genre that you like to read usually?

Sam I quite like adventure because it's quite exciting

Jo okay yeah . anybody else . you don't have to wait just talk whenever you like but if you don't want to that's fine as well

Pho I don't know if it's a genre but I've read quite a lot of erm dystopian novels at the moment

Jo oh wow

Pho so like erm . I don't know really I can't think of an example off the top of my head but . they're quite interesting

Jo yeah definitely

Fay I also read dystopian books they're the main ones I read

Jo . excellent okay . anyone else?

Sue I would probably say fantasy as well as favourite genre

Jo . okay

Sue probably science fiction

Jo . yep . okay and where do you tend to be when you read where's your favourite place to read or the usual place you seem to be when you read?

Kay Erm my favourite place is outside but the weather doesn't always permit that

Jo Outside okay and whereabouts like in your garden or=

Kay =Erm I don't know somewhere with a breeze

Jo Oh nice

Kay a sea breeze but I normally read in my room because it's secluded and quieter

Jo . yes it's important to be quiet isn't it to be able to concentrate how about everybody else where do you like to be when you read?

Pho I just read in bed before I go to sleep

[inaudible sounds of agreement]

Kay I always get too engrossed in the book so I don't go to sleep hh

Sue I do that too

Jo hh

Ros I read anywhere I'm not really that bothered

Jo . okay but everybody likes to read just before they go to sleep yep? . yeah me too okay
now erm can anyone remember how you first heard about the *Harry Potter* books=

Kay =Erm it was .

Jo maybe a long time ago

Kay hh I heard about the films and everything and then didn't really want to read the books .

Jo okay

Kay erm but my mum read them and she pushed me towards reading them so I decided to read
one and erm loved it

Jo excellent okay but you heard about the films before the books?

Kay [whispered] yeah

Jo okay anybody else?

Pho My dad used to read them to us when we were little because obviously they're quite old

Sam yeah my brother read the first one to me and then like I read the rest of them when I was
quite little

Jo ah excellent

Sam when they started to get popular my sister started reading them and then like recently she
told me to read them so I started to read

Fay it would have been ten years ago my friends all used to play *Harry Potter* because they'd
seen the film the first film and I didn't understand any of it so I read the books

Jo right hh

Sue Erm my mum first introduced them to me and then my dad and my brother

Ros Erm my mum read them to me but I heard about the films first but mum read them to me
when I was younger

Jo okay and erm I know erm was it Faye was it you've already said was it was it you who said
your dad read them to you?

Fay [that was Phoebe]

Pho [that was me]

Jo that's my next question actually if anyone else can remember a parent or maybe another grown-up reading it to you when you were er when you were younger

Sue yeah that's my dad

Jo okay anybody else remember another parent er another grown-up or a parent reading *Harry Potter* =

Fay =my mum read erm the first couple to me erm but I always used to find them too exciting so I would read another chapter in my own time and then get into trouble for it hh

Jo hhh . okay anyone else want to add anything else to that?

Kay no I only read them a few years ago so I er .

Jo okay . so you did it yourself

Kay yeah hh

Jo okay and when you were very very small as far back as you can remember can you remember being read to back then

all [sounds of agreement]

Jo everybody

Kay I can't I can remember having conversations but not reading

Jo you can't remember being read to okay

Kay yeah

Jo okay can anyone remember their first favourite book from when they were very small .

[giggling]

Jo is anyone prepared to admit it?

Fay how small?

Jo as young as you can remember

Fay *Each Peach Pear Plum*

Jo what was that?

Fay *Each Peach Pear Plum*

Jo that sounds good hh

Fay hh but that was like when I was three

Ali I liked *Owl Babies* and *The Hungry Caterpillar*

All yeah [giggling]

Jo I still love *The Hungry Caterpillar*

Ros *Owl Babies* is cute

Kay I liked *The Dragonfly and the Butterfly* but I was in primary school around about . four maybe when I read it and I couldn't that was the first book which I couldn't put down

Sue Mine was *Spot*

Jo *Spot the Dog?*

Ros Mine was *Dear Zoo* and *Room on the Broom*

Pho yeah

Jo yeah

Pho I don't think I had a favourite one I think I read like all of those sort of ones .

Jo yeah . I think mine was *Mr Bump*
[giggles]

Jo okay and erm can anyone remember I think we might have touched on this already as well can anyone remember what erm made you want to read your first *Harry Potter* book? What was it that I know we have kind of touched upon this already with some of you erm can anyone else remember what it was that made you want to pick up the first one?

Kay it was my mum that pushed me towards it

Jo right yeah

Sam well my sister had mentioned about them and then like we'd been told to bring in books in English lesson for us to read so I thought it was a good idea to start and then just

Pho well because my dad had read them to me when I was really small I didn't really remember a lot about them so a couple of years ago I just started to reread them myself so I knew what people were talking about

Jo Right okay .

Sue yeah I did that as well

Fay my mum like got me to read them or she read them to me and I like started reading them . and again and again so .

Jo okay . right . and erm what is it that you like about the *Harry Potter* books? what is it that makes them so readable hh?

Pho I think because it is like childhood like when you think about childhood you do think about *Harry Potter* like with our generation so it's always been there=

Fay =we've grown up with him

Jo interesting

Car yeah

Pho like as we've grown up they've gone through the years so it's like reliving that I guess

Jo that's very interesting=

Kay yeah it's like erm every child's dream to be able to do magic

[sounds of agreement]

Kay and erm it's because you actually . like erm as you're reading and you realise how he's growing up and erm using . his powers hhh in a different way and a bit more mature so you . you like get to read nice childy books but then the adventure is very erm exciting and makes you want to read it .

Jo . okay anybody else want to add anything to that .

Ros It's kind of like as you grow up *Harry Potter* grows up too so like you've always kind of like grown up with it and like as like the characters in the book are more mature like you're more mature so you understand it like more

Jo yeah

Sam yeah

Fay and they're easy to engage with as well they're just . even though it's about magic you can believe that Hogwarts is a real place and they're real people

Jo and you all came to Hogwarts as well didn't you hh?

[giggling]

Jo hh excellent right okay are there any things that you don't like about the *Harry Potter* books? Anything at all you can think of that you don't like about the books not films

Fay Harry's lucky he gets away with so much

Jo hh .

Kay erm I read the fourth one and I couldn't bring myself to read it any more of it

Jo so that's The Goblet of Fire yeah?

Kay yeah I got about half way through maybe a bit less and I just found it very tedious it just kept going but never actually moved anywhere and I just couldn't bring myself to read anymore after putting it down and picking it up

Jo yeah and is that where you stopped at the Gob=

Kay =yeah

Jo has anybody else erm how did everyone else feel about The Goblet of Fire

Fay [overlap] That's my favourite

Pho [overlap] That's my favourite

Ros [overlap] I liked it
[giggling]

Jo right okay well yeah we're erm we're all different

Pho I normally read books in first person from like their point of view so when I read *Harry Potter* again recently it's a bit different so I don't know if I like that it's not like actually from

Jo oh interesting

Kay I like first person as well

???

jo . was anybody put off by the size of the the later books?

???

???

Ros a little bit

???

Ros because I'm quite a slow reader and I'm only on the fourth one . hh

Jo right yep me too actually I stopped in the middle of this one I had too many text books to read

Pho I stopped at The Goblet of Fire I didn't read the other ones but I will do I just haven't got around to it yet

Kay I always think that with small books you don't get to know the characters as well so I nev erm I never normally read books like this [gestures to thinner Potter books on table] it's normally sort of ones up there [gesturing to thicker books] because I don't like you don't get to know the characters as much .

Jo right and erm . was *Harry Potter* one of the first big books you read or=

Kay =no

Jo you were already reading=

Kay =yeah

Jo big thick books when you read the Goblet of Fire?

Kay yeah

Jo right yeah okay . okay now erm . Is or has *Harry Potter* ever been your favourite fiction? Has there ever been a point, [Phoebe is shaking her head] right so 'No' for Phoebe

Pho No

Jo No for Kay/

Kay yeah

Jo yeah?

Kay I think it has not now but like when I was younger and when I'd read like the first three or whatever

Jo How old would you have been then do you think?

Kay probably like . I don't know like eight nine I don't know I can't really remember

Jo right okay how about anyone else has he ever

???

Jo yeah [several girls]

Jo okay and what age would that is that is it is it is *Harry Potter* books somebody's favourite books now by any chance? . yep?

Sam yes, I still quite like them

Jo and your name is .

Sam Samantha

Jo Samantha I can't see it yeah . okay and what age would you have been when they were your favourite books

Ros Probably 7 or 8 the same when I was having them read to that's because it was the only book that I was reading well I was being read to at the time it was gonna be my favourite book so .

Jo okay and erm how would you compare it to other fiction? *Harry Potter* ? . what's different

Pho I think sometimes because they have like long takes like you were saying takes it's quite takes a while to get into the storyline like the beginning's quite often the same isn't it like just settling back at Hogwarts and things

Jo right yeah

Pho whereas like with something like The Hunger Games it's like exciting all the way through

Jo Ah right

Fay I personally find that you I can just reread *Harry Potter* in fact I've probably read them all like three times I can just keep going through them erm but they're not my favourite books they're just what I go back to cause they're light reading like when I'm in the middle of exams like

Jo okay so nothing too taxing?

Han mm hmm

Jo just easy reading? okay interesting . anybody else want to add anything to that? . no? . okay right so erm why do you think some people don't read *Harry Potter* books?

Kay Erm I think they're a bit intimidating either how many there are erm how thick they are and erm [now that we've got] the films you just think oh I'll just watch the films you don't realise how much more there is in the books

Fay and some people think films are always better than books and they're

Kay they're never better

Fay yeah I agree personally [sound of laughter] and some people say if they'd read the book they'd be disappointed cause they've seen the films

Pho I guess as well

Kay but like in the fifth film there's so much more like in the . book

Fay the fourth as well

???

Fay the fourth film is rubbish but

Pho yeah

Fay the book is brilliant

Sam and there's like people see the film and they're like oh there's not that much going on and then like in the book there's like loads more stuff

Kay that's why I always want to read the books before the films

???

Pho I think as well is people have like seen the films then cause I don't like seeing the character in the from the film when I'm reading the book so if people have seen the film and they're

like me then they're like I don't want to read the books cause there's already like a set character isn't there? Like Daniel Radcliffe will always be *Harry Potter* but I wish it wasn't that way

Jo fascinating yeah no that's very true isn't it yeah does everyone agree? yeah?

???

???

Kay but then if you read the books before the films you make your own character

Fay yeah

Kay you might not enjoy the film as much but I normally see it as in the person in the book is my character and that is the image portrayed for other people

Jo yeah

Kay I've still got my own part of that character .

Jo okay so just going back to what I said earlier erm are there any types of people you can think of that perhaps don't read *Harry Potter* or you think don't read *Harry Potter* or what types of people or .

Pho I guess at our age people might think oh it's a children's book

Jo ah, okay

Pho so I'm not gonna bother with that

Kay and other people sometimes think it's not cool to read

Jo Really okay

Kay cause I know my brother doesn't read at all and if you said oh read the *Harry Potter* books he would laugh in your face

Jo Right okay and how old is he?

Kay same age as me so you think it's what [appeals and it's like a classic people might get dissuaded from it]

Jo do you think more boys read *Harry Potter* than girls generally or

???

Sue I think it'd probably be more girls than boys

Jo right okay what does everyone else think?

Fay I'd say equal spread

???

yeah

I don't think it's either a girls' or a boys' book really like some books like everyone can read but they are more targeted towards girls but it's not really that xxx

Fay I think it's maybe like because there's boys and girls as the main characters it talks about harry and ron and Hermione as opposed to just being about harry in which case more boys might prefer it

Kay there's a bit more action as well so you've got that for the boys there's a little bit of romance for the girls .

Jo right hh okay and how does everyone feel about Hermione?

Kay erm I like Hermione cause like she's strong and independent and not normally like one of these girls who like o7u read about in other books where they're like wimpy little girls

Pho yeah like in some books that I've read even though everyone loves the main character like I just hate them and think they're so boring

Kay yeah

Pho but like with Hermione it's different there's like always things going on with her .

Jo right okay . excellent right erm now does anybody think that reading *Harry Potter* helped you with your reading in any way at all

[some nod]

Jo yeah?

Kay no

Jo okay some nods some

Kay erm I found them really easy reading

Jo okay and you were how old when you started reading them?

Kay a few years ago

Jo right oh of course yeah

Kay yeah I erm I found them really easy to read and I've had erm . other books in which . I've had to I could read but I had to pay attention but erm and vocabulary was better was more advanced and I just find these as I said very light reading

Jo right okay how about anyone else do you think

Ros I would say that because when I was younger and I first read these these were like the first books that I like properly read cause before that

???: yeah [2 girls]

Ros: I hated reading

Jo: ah interesting

Ros: so after *Harry Potter* I then started to read other things .

Jo: okay so it kind of

Ros: and it really helps with my reading as well cause I think I went like two levels after reading from when I like started reading properly

Jo: right and you were around 8 did you say?

Ros: yeah like 7 or 8

Jo: okay how about everybody else do you think it helped your reading skills?

Fay: I think I did a lot of reading anyway like all the time i think being able to read the last three in particular because they're so thick encouraged me to read things like Lord of the Rings

Jo: is that what you went on to read afterwards

Fay: no it was a couple of years but I knew I could manage thick books

Jo: right

Fay: so I knew that I'd be able to finish Lord of the Rings

Jo: okay . how about everybody else?

Pho: I think cause I've always loved reading that like reading them didn't really make a difference to me cause I'd always had like the reading background so like anything that's helped my reading has always helped anyway

Jo: okay . yeah . and do you think it's encouraged you to go on to read other things? could you when you first started reading did it encourage you to read other things maybe longer books or

Kay: erm no cause like I said I [finished ???] the fourth book erm it's mainly my friends cause I didn't used to read much and my friends read loads so I normally ask them what books should I read any series that you . like erm . want me to read or something like that

Jo: okay good stuff okay . has everyone said everything they want to yeah? okay right erm what i'd like to do now is just go around the table on by one and ask you each to tell me for each title whether you've erm read the book seen the film and if you've done both which you did first so if we could start with you Sue you've read *The Philosopher's Stone* have you?

Ros: Well when you say read do you mean I've personally

Jo: yeah . yeah

Sue Erm

Jo or which of them can you remember that do you

Sue I think I read the first 3 by myself but I had them all read to me

Jo okay right and have you seen the films for the first 3

Sue yeah

Jo and can you remember which you did first was it book or film

Sue er books definitely

Jo books first okay and sorry what was your name again

Hea Heather

Jo Ruth sorry I can't see your name

Hea erm watched the film first for PS first then I read them all before I read

Jo before you saw the film

Hea before I saw the rest of the films

Jo okay so for PS it was film first for the rest it was book first

Hea yeah cause all my friends were talking about it and because my mum already had the books she was she was actually annoyed that I'd seen the film first and she made me read the book

Jo hh and how about you Phoebe

Pho erm well I had them all read to me and then I watched the films but for reading myself I read up to the GoF first but then I saw the films first

Jo right and

Fay Faye I love erm read them I had them read to me the first few but I read them all myself before seeing the film

Jo excellent okay and Samantha

Sam erm I watched all of them before I read them but that inspired me to read them

Jo okay and Kay

Kay yes I watched all the films before I read them

Jo okay and Cara

Car erm I read like the first four before watching the films and then like I saw the films for the last three before reading them

Jo okay right . now erm can you think of something from the books that erm JK Rowling, her writing did better than the film anything you know when you watched the film when you thought, that was better in the book any any specific scenes

Fay Quidditch world cup quidditch in general [several girls say yeah] quidditch in general cause like there's loads of quidditch throughout all the books and there's like two matches in all the films

Jo that's true yeah

Fay they've cut out all the quidditch . quidditch is really good

Jo okay so everyone was nodding there for the quidditch so everyone agrees with that

Kay it's just like little moments in which the film has completely missed out and that little bit just overrules the film and makes the book better

Jo right yeah

Pho it's just

Kay yeah

Pho oh sorry, go on

Kay no it's alright

Pho I think the detail in general as well like just because she makes so detailed that obviously they can't fit all of that into the film

Girl yeah I was going to say that they missed stuff out of the films that sometimes that's key to what happens in the last book and what explains stuff

Jo right okay and erm how about any characters that you know were you anyone disappointed by a film character

Kay I don't like Harry Potter

Jo you don't like Harry Potter right

Kay he erm I prefer

Jo you don't like Daniel Radcliffe rather you don't like the film version of Harry

Kay yes of *Harry Potter* because erm it always bugs me the fact that it's like don't do this and they go and do it and they do it and get let off so easily and I prefer Ron and Hermione Hermione is really independent and the fact that Ron even though Harry's doing all the same exactly what they're telling him not to do he's still with him and it drives me insane the man characters been told not to do something and going and doing it

Jo yeah yeah and is that different in the film do you think or is it just as bad in the book as it is in the film

Kay erm

Jo does it annoy you more in the film

Kay i don't know erm it erm it annoys me both I think with the film it annoys me a bit more

Jo right okay

Kay but with the books I can sort of push it to the back of my mind but otherwise

Jo right and was there anything else from the books that erm anyone thought was better in the book than the film

Car erm I thought that erm Sirius

Jo Sirius Black yeah

Car was better in the book because it explained him more and it was like was more erm like with him than in the film

Jo okay

Pho I think kind of the same with like Snape as well like I think Snape gets a lot more credit in the books than like he gets in the film [several girls say yeah] I don't think in the film you fully realise like everything that he's done to help Harry but in the books like obviously you do get that

Due yeah cause like the memory bit in the film in the last one is like .

Kay a whole chapter

Fay if you haven't read the book it doesn't make sense

Sue yeah there's way less of it . in the film there's like way more detail in it

Pho yeah and it's kind of like the same with Sirius Black as well there's like whole and probably a bit more on like what happened with like Pettigrew and everyone [one girl says yeah] whereas in the film it's like . twenty seconds and then like that doesn't really make as much sense so you don't really get

Jo mmm

Fay I think perhaps for like all of them certainly the later ones erm the I don't think the films would make much sense without the books I can't imagine having watched the films and having understood them if I hadn't read the books

Jo right . so the books add a lot more to the films

Fay yeah

Sue yeah and I think if you read the books you get to [actually do] the characters and then that amplifies what what's erm in the films

Jo right . brilliant yeah . and I I notice some more nods there is everyone kind of agreeing with that

Kay because in the books it explains it so much more and you actually not just know what they're feeling but understand why they're doing that and reasons behind it and you feel more in touch with the characters whilst reading the books

Jo excellent . so erm you think people that just see the film are missing a lot of the story then [two girls are heard to say yes] that's interesting yeah . okay and what about the the earlier I mean you've mentioned the erm discontent about the erm some parts of the Deathly Hallows films what about in the earlier the earlier books is there anything you can remember from those that you preferred in the book to the film .

Fay Hagrid

Jo Hagrid? Better in the book?

Fay yeah [two other girls also say yeah]

Jo right

Pho no I like Hagrid in the films as well

Fay yeah [at least three other girls also say yes] but it's better in the books .

Jo okay . is there anything else anyone wanted to add to that?

Sue I don't think they get the whole experience of Hogwarts erm in the film .

Jo okay

Sue they try and show all the different aspects and stuff but you don't get to go with them through the lessons it's mainly about the storyline

Jo ahh

Kay you only see the same parts of Hogwarts

Sue yeah

Fay yeah

Pho yeah

Kay like the stairs they're always talking up those stairs erm the hall like the corridors it seems to be the same erm the courtyard it's always the same courtyard little things like that yes seems like it's the same thing but you never see this massive huge castle you just see these little bits that are just constantly repeated .

Jo okay right well erm and any has everyone said everything they want to there . okay right erm so can any of you remember ever lending a Harry Potter book maybe to a family member or to a friend

?? no

?? no

Jo no?

Pho last week actually I lent it to my Grandma to read

Jo to your Grandma? Fabulous okay can you which one was it?

Pho erm Prisoner of Azkaban

Jo okay . any anybody else erm share their books around their friends at all?

?? no

?? no

Kay my mum shared it to me but that's it

Jo okay

Fay my sister gave it to me

Jo your sister . right okay erm well that's all my questions actually do do you maybe have any questions for me .

Pho why did you decide to do Harry Potter ?

Jo right now what we're doing erm . you may of you may have read yourself in the media or you know heard it on I don't know you may have heard rumours that people think that Harry Potter the Harry Potter books at some level have improved children's reading erm now there's no actual research evidence to prove this one way or another so that that's what we're setting out to do basically with the questionnaires to start with and then erm focus groups to find out your opinion on whether you actually do think that and obviously from our chat erm not all of you do think that erm he erm he? Hh that the books have improved your reading erm I think mainly in the media you'll hear that erm it's more to do with boys they think Harry Potter improved boys' reading but we're we're taking the the chance to look into girls as well erm obviously then you can compare erm so we'll have some support for an agument one way or another

Kay you normally get girls who read who've read beforehand and read the books so you xxx girls have already got that advancement in vocabulary and stuff

Jo rather than boys you mean?

Kay yeah

Jo right okay

Pho I guess that depends on background a bit as well cause like my parents had always read to me so it didn't really improve my reading that much cause I'd always had that but like if

people's parents don't read to them when they're little and then Harry Potter 's the first book that they actually experience then that's obviously gonna help theirs

Jo right

Kay yeah cause I didn't have that and erm all through primary school I didn't like reading until round about year 4 erm I got sort of into reading and then I think it was year 7 in which I just loved reading and I haven't stopped since

Jo brilliant yeah

Kay you know I just read all the time and I've even had my parents threaten to take my books off me as a punishment

Jo hhh

Kay instead of my phone or like my computer

Jo right hhh

Sam xxx think it was like because I was younger still are now but like because I'm dyslexic and I just couldn't read it drove me mad and I just hated it but and obviously I had to do like the reading scheme and stuff at primary school but then like because of Harry Potter I then started to read like more and more even though it was my mum that read them to me first they were kind of like the first books I actually physically read myself

Jo so for you then they definitely did have an effect yeah

Hea yeah it's like it was like I didn't really like reading in like the first like year reception and year one of primary school but then my year 2 teacher really liked Harry Potter and like she's she did this thing and like the first lesson where she like sorted you with a hat

Jo brilliant hh

Hea and like it wasn't Griffindor, Hufflepuff, Ravenclaw and Slytherin it was like it was different broomsticks and like it was on the tables but she like encouraged me to read more stuff and like that that started me reading Harry Potter

Jo perfect excellent

Fay I think I'm quite different then cause I taught myself to read I wanted to learn to read cause the school I went to I was in a mixed nursery reception class and I wanted to do what the bigger kids were doing so Harry Potter was just a part of just reading in general it didn't make me read cause I was already reading .

Jo right . yeah . okay so it's maybe half and half is it that some feel it did and some feel it didn't yeah

Kay yeah, as . Phoebe said it it's your background and whether your parents have read to you and encouraged you to read erm and cause I know somebody who their parents haven't encouraged them to read and erm she's partly illiterate like

Jo okay

Kay in reading and stuff and I think it was mainly my friends telling me to read these books and encouraging me to read these books erm not particularly Hary Potter but other books in which has got me into it and I'm very grateful of it cause I really enjoy them

Jo right brilliant . okay . well erm thank you all so much I'm sure we've got some fascinating stuff off you there and erm yeah it's been really interesting really lovely to meet you all you're all a credit to Ripley and erm yeah good luck with the rest of your studies and erm enjoy the weekend it's the weekend soon isn't it? [several girls laugh] hh okay so what time oh you get ten minutes early is it quarter to your lunch starts? [several girls say yes] do you have any other questions for me?

Pho Do you think there's any chance of you doing it with other books in the future or is it just Harry Potter ?

Jo Oh there's an interesting thought erm . maybe . I don't know. I think erm . Jane Sunderland is the principal investigator of the project and erm I think she's quite interested in the impact of Jacqueline Wilson as well so

Pho I've never really liked her [several agree]

Jo you've never liked them?

Fay I went off them [inaudible overlapping]

Pho I read them cause everyone else was reading them but they're not really my thing

Sue the storylines are all like really similar cause like

Kay I got I constantly got given my all her books and I really disliked her writing as the fact that it was all really childish

Jo okay

Fay I loved

Kay there was little childish topics but trying to be serious and just the type of writing I really didn't like

Jo okay tight this is fascinating cause I thought I thought that erm Jacqueline Wilson was really popular among girls but a lot of you

[lots of inaudible overlapping voices]

??? I used to love them;

???: I grew out of them;

???: I think a few of them . are better than others

Pho: I think as well and I know I keep going on about background but it might be that kind of thing cause they are set like Tracy Beaker's set like with like less fortunate children

Jo: yeah

Pho: so if it's them reading it then they'll be able to associate themselves better with the characters

Jo: right yeah

Fay: Tracy Beaker's an interesting one because of the TV series

Jo: ah, yeah

Fay: I think that's one of the few things where the book has been beaten

Jo: okay

Fay: cause I think

kay: I would probably

Fay: so many people engage with Tracy Beaker because she's on well not she but there is a television programme about her

Hea: and it's still like showing now it's still going on

???: even if the like the character's gone

???: yeah

Fay: and like they're still making a series out of it and stuff even though like

Kay: yeah it's like developed on what Jacqueline Wilson did in the book

Pho: yeah

Kay: it's like more

Car: we had her come to the school

Jo: yeah yeah I remember that

Har: the girls got forced to go

Jo: hh forced to go even if you didn't want to

Sue: a lot of girls that were like well not tomboyish but like didn't really like reading them they sat there like not really wanting to be there

Jo right yeah . you get a lot of guest authors coming to visit don't you

Kay I've been to quite a few

Fay but you're not allowed once you get to our age

Pho no hh it's only like

Jo oh really?

[inaudible overlapping]

Fay it's only years 7 to year 9

[inaudible overlapping]

Jo well it's a massive school isn't it?

Fay Joseph Joseph Delaney was the one that disappointed me

Sam Oh I don't know I quite liked him

Fay no er he was good when I went but

Pho we weren't allowed to go

Fay yeah he came back and we weren't allowed to go

Jo aw

Sam Oh I was allowed to go to that one that one was good

Car that one was good

Pho hh

Sam it was

Kay erm I remember seeing one when he brought in like all the erm . like

Sam war gear

Kay yeah war gear and stuff and it was really good it's a shame that you [inaudible, door closing]

Pho yeah but I got that book

Jo it's a big school though isn't it is it wouldit be the lecture theatre in this [lots of them say 'yeah'] it seats how many

Fay they don't let year 10 upwards go cause of exams

Jo ah

Ros and we can't miss lessons unless we have to so

Jo okay yeah

Sue well my brother from the boys' grammar he actually came to the Pythian hall to I can't remember who it was now but it was another author

???

Rick Riordan

Sue yeah

Jo oh he's the the erm .

???

Percy Jackson

Pho I was sad

Fay I was like [made sad face]

Jo aw hhh

Fay that was like this year that I was like

Sue we didn't get a chance but we did

Fay yeah I know and I wish I'd gone to see him now

Kay what series was it the .

Ros yeah the heroes of Olympus series

Kay yeah

Ros was just come out and I've still got one more book to go and I really want it to come out

Kay I I I read the Percy Jacksons and I I I really liked those but I haven't been able to get into the Olympia ones I just haven't been

Ros I never read the Percy Jackson ones . but like I really enjoyed cause like I dunno they were just kind of like Percy Jackson but a step further

Jo . hh so what's everyone's favourite book of all time then, favourite book you've ever read?

[gasping noises]

Kay you can't name a favourite book

Jo If you had to if you could only have one book

Kay mine would be The Vampire Diaries by LJ Smith

Jo ok

Pho did you watch the TV series?

Kay yeah

Rac it's good but I think it's I think the TV series was actually better than the books I think it's one of those strange cases

Kay it depends where you're coming from because with the TV series cause they're completely different

Pho hmm . I didn't actually enjoy the books that much though

Kay oh I I I adored the books like the erm way she'd written it and stuff but the . it's really it's such a shame because the ninth and tenth book has been written by a ghost writer

Jo oh right

Kay she got a ghost writer to do it and what I love about the books is the fact that you didn't have a clue about what was going to happen until right at the end

Jo right

Kay and with the ninth book erm . as soon . as they got to the college I knew exactly what was going to happen and erm I just flicked through it because my friend had bought me the last book so I wanted to read that so from her but yeah I love those books but the TV series and the books are completely different

Pho yeah ad they don't follow the same storyline they literally just use the characters and then the storyline is just it's not even based on the books

Kay xxx it's erm she has a little sister who's about four isn't it?

Pho yeah

Kay and in the TV series it's a little brother who's about sixteen

Pho yeah and then they like take characters as well but give them different names like Bonny's Meredith in the book and it just really frustrates me it's like if you're given the book which is that good you just work off the book don't you rather than

Kay Meredith's the hunter and she's a doctor

Pho yeah it's really

Kay annoying at times .

Jo . I never got into the whole vampire thing

Pho no I I used to like Twilight but I don't anymore I think I'm growing out of it

Car Twilight annoys me

Fay I read Twilight just for the sake of reading it, partly because you [to Phoebe] bullied me until I did

Kay I did like them but they just erm

Car they're not as good as everyone makes out they are

Kay cause I find that after watching xxx they seem so . almost sissy hh in the fact that they try to lower it down to a PG and the books erm I read all four in two weeks

Jo right and they're quite chunky books as well aren't they?

Pho I read them in

Kay they're so easy to read . like they're easier than Harry Potter just by the language how's she's written it and it's really simple to read and I hated the ending

Jo right . okay

Pho I think I first went off them when I read The Hunger Games a few years ago cause you just realise how much better the writing is

Fay yeah Hunger Games is xxx

Jo everyone loves The Hunger Games yeah?

Kay yeah=

???

Pho yeah=

???

???

???

???

Fay The first one's the best

Kay I liked the first and second they were really good

Pho yeah

Kay I really enjoyed those ones they're really clever as well

Pho yeah

Kay how they did it but the third one sort of went off the topic and I didn't really enjoy it

Ros the third one was still quite good

Pho yeah I enjoyed it I just thought it was sad yeah

Fay it was good . but it wasn't

Kay I cried at them

Ros yeah me too hhh

Pho but I read the books like ages before they even started to talk about the film which I'm glad about cause remember what I was saying before about getting an idea of a character

Jo yeah

Pho so I've still got like the idea of the character so if you are going to read them and you haven't done don't watch the film before you read the books cause the film's disappointing I think

Kay I didn't like the film though it was missing music so parts that it should have music it didn't

Sue and like they brought out a whole soundtrack and none of the soundtrack was in it and I was like

Pho yeah what was that?

Sue there was like really good songs

Kay I remember like screaming at the TV there should be music here

Pho I think as well you know like what we were saying about the Harry Potter's like missing certain bits out The Hunger Games they miss like a major thing out that really annoys me

Jo oh do they right

Pho but it's not even like a scene it's like the whole storyline of this yeah it's just really annoyed me

Ros was I the only one who thought that like the books weren't actually they were good stories but the books themselves weren't actually that well written? I always I always thought that they were more like instructions that you would give to like a film director and then they'd go like but I always felt like I never really liked . the way that they were written

Jo you weren't too impressed either Sue were you not?

Sue I haven't read them

Jo oh have you not

Sue I saw the film though

Jo okay has anyone seen The Life of Pi at the cinema?

Fay yes

Jo had you read the book?

Fay yes

Kay no

Jo what did you think? Cause I've read the book and I don't know whether to see the film or not

Fay the film was very good considering the book cause it's hard to make an interesting film about a boy on a lifeboat with a tiger

Jo yeah yeah

Fay the book is fascinating very philosophical

Jo hmm does that come through in the film?

Fay er . to a certain extent but not not not as much

Jo yeah

Fay the film's more pretty colours than an actual good film

Jo hh right yeah okay. no I'll stick I'll maybe just reread the book again then

Kay but it's my . friend's mum started reading The Fifty Shades of Grey

Jo ahh hh

Kay she she put that down as the grammar was too bad couldn't read it cause of the grammar

Jo yeah yeah [school bell rings] well definitely stay away from the film of that one girls when it comes out

[laughing]

Ros I can't believe that Fifty Shades of Grey outsold Harry Potter

Jo oh it's er

Kay the grammar is really bad

Sue it started off as a fan fiction didn't it?

Pho from Twilight

Ros yeah

Kay Twilight? Oh it just annoys me

Pho I can't believe that people can sit there like reading it on the train without shame

Jo I know crazy hhh

Sue or if someone goes into a bookshop and buys a hard back copy and you're like

[teacher enters]

Teacher: Hiya just checking you're okay

Jo your girls are fantastic

teach oh that's good I'm glad I'm glad they've been helpful brilliant

Jo and it's it's your lunch now is it?

All yes

Jo well thank you again so much we've got such useful stuff there have a lovely weekend

[several girls say thank you and goodbye]

teach Oh that's good I'm pleased about that did you get them all? Did they all come?

[inaudible overlapping chatter amongst the girls]

Jo erm I think we may have missed a couple

[end of recording]

SS2 Girls 1 (Anonymised)

Jo Right well firstly thank you all very much for agreeing to take part in this study and of course for erm filling in the online questionnaire about the Harry Potter books as well so my name's Jo and I'm from Lancaster University in the Linguistics department and we're doing a study on the Harry Potter books and what young people erm think about them your attitudes basically towards the the Harry Potter books so today we're doing what's called a focus group now if you've not done one before that basically means that I'm going to throw some questions out there and then I'd just ask you to talk amongst yourselves about your responses okay erm there's no right or wrong answers it's not a test erm we just want you to be honest we're just very interested in what you all have to say about the Harry Potter books okay erm you're free to say what you like when you like so if you want to respond to what somebody else has said that's fine you don't have to put your hand up or anything like that so just talk when you want and of course you don't all have to agree either but erm because there's so many of you please try not to talk over one another don't interrupt that kind of thing just obvious things like that (.) erm give everyone a chance to speak if they want to and of course if you don't want to join in on a particular question then that's absolutely fine as well (.) okay now erm you've probably noticed this machine here it is recording our chat but it will be deleted afterwards it's just so that I don't have to sit here scribbling down your answers I can type it out later your teachers won't hear it your parents won't hear it and when I do type it out I'll change all your names as well so erm feel free to erm be honest and say what you like okay and then it will be deleted oh erm you don't have to put your hand up

Grl erm when you change the names can you call me Doris?

Jo Right so Adele would like to be called Doris okay no problem hhh

Grl I don't mind about you changing my name

Jo hhh okay

Grl can I be Hermione?

Jo you'd like right Fleur would like to be Hermione now I can't guarantee that but I'll try alright hhh okay so is everybody happy then?

Grl yep

Grl yeah

Jo excellent okay now erm I think first of all just because I think you're all in different year groups aren't you if we could just go round the circle and if you could just say your name and the year you're in so if we start with erm Laurelle so you're Laurelle hhh and what year are you in?

Grl hhh year 8

Grl Bella year 8

Grl Sarah year 9

Grl Dawn year 9

Grl Adele year 9

Grl Emma year 9

Grl Julie year 9

Grl Ella year 9

Grl Fleur year 9

Grl Maria year 8

Jo brilliant okay thank you and let me just make sure this recording is working it is okay now the first few questions are not specifically about Harry Potter they're more about your reading habits in general okay so first of all maybe we could go around the circle from Maria and if you could just tell us what sorts of thing you're reading at the minute so it could be anything it doesn't have to be a Harry Potter book

Grl what the name of the book

Jo yeah if you were to start reading now what would it probably be?

Grl well at the minute I'm reading *Noughts and Crosses*

Jo is that Malorie Blackman?

Grl yeah

Grl I'm reading *The Weirdstone of Brisingamen*

Jo The Weirdstone of

Grl Brisingamen

Jo ah okay

Grl it's brilliant it's like sort of *Famous Five* meets *Lord of the Rings* sort of thing

Jo excellent

Grl I'm reading *Lord of the Rings*

Jo okay

grl erm just finished *Light* by Michael Grant

grl i'm reading er *Pride and Prejudice*

grl I'm about half way through *The Great Gatsby*

grl erm I always read the Cherub series

grl I'm reading the end of The Hunger Games

grl I'm well I was reading erm Hunger from (???) but my brother put it back in the library so I've not got it now so I'm not really reading anything although I'm reading Malorie Blackman's book what was it called erm Boys don't cry

Jo okay

grl erm Hunger games

Jo Hunger Games as well right okay brilliant any anybody like reading magazines or anything on the internet or anything like that you don't have to put your hand up just talk

grl I read the Blind Date section in The Guardian
(lots of laughter)

Jo ah, okay hhh anybody else reading anything other than books

Grl erm I read my comic which is Young Archaeologists comic

jo fantastic okay anybody else reading anything other than what you've already said

grl I'm reading erm another book as well erm The Girl who Kicked the Hornet's Nest by Steig Larsson

Jo oh wow

Grl I'm just like starting well I sort of finished it as well but Room by (Emma Donahue?) and I'm reading another one by her as well called (The Gathering Light)

Grl and I'm kind of reading The Northern Lights too

Grl I'm reading Wonder too

grl I love that book

grl that's a really good book

grl I'm reading some short stories on the internet

grl fan fiction

grl yeah
(lots of laughter)

grl you tried to make that sound really good though

grl yeah

grl like short stories but you have to put fan fiction hhh

grl I was gonna say it but I thought it would sound really awkward hhh

Jo does anybody else do that as well?

(about 3 or 4 girls say yes)

(lots of laughter makes speech inaudible)

Grl we've revealed our secret

Grl It's alright it was the great American classics and then just bam hhh

grl honestly

jo okay and where do you tend to be when you do most of your reading

grl erm upstairs

grl in my bedroom

grl in bed

Jo in bed?

grl yeah

grl while leaning on my bed

grl or in the car on long journeys

jo okay

grl yeah

grl at school

grl or on holiday

grl train

grl on the sofa

Jo okay so anywhere Bella yeah hhh

grl hhh

grl holiday

grl holidays

grl and the library

jo okay . and everybody reads in bed do they just before they go to sleep

 (sounds of agreement)

jo okay

grl yeah

jo right okay and can remember what erm how you first heard about the Harry Potter books
 just just speak whenever you like

grl actually Elizabeth erm Fox she introduced me to them

jo okay

grl and I really liked them

grl I think my granddad read the first one and he knows what sort of books I like so he just gave
 me it and I read it and liked it hhh

grl one of our erm friends is obsessed

grl absolutely

grl I dunno if she was in the last focus group

grl Olivia

grl she sort of in Primary school she was sort of always reading them so you sort of just read
 them yourself

grl it was before that though

grl yes I was peer pressured into it by the same friend hhh by Olivia

grl well my older brother like read the first one to me when I was younger but then it was and
 then I like didn't read any until . i dunno ages hhh

grl it was my older sister she had all the books so I started reading them

grl I think I found them in the library when I was like 7 or 8 cause i was like one of the films had
 just come out (???)

grl all my family pressured me into it . I didn't like reading so they made me a bet to read the
 first Harry Potter and then I just liked it so I carried on reading

Jo they bet you?

grl yeah hhh

Jo they paid you to read it

 (laughter)

grl yeah I mean cause usually I did it for like the beginning the middle the like the beginning chapter the middle chapter and then the end and then I got the gist of the book but I usually I got bored by the end so . but I liked the Harry Potter so I read them and now I just like reading

Jo okay anybody else want to share how they first heard about the Harry Potter books?

grl my teacher told me at primary school and then she was saying how good they were so like I just started to read them

Jo right okay excellent right so erm did your parents or another grown up erm ever read any of the Harry Potter books to you when you were very young

grl no

Jo some of you have already said that

grl she read it to my sister and my brother but not to me

(laughter)

Jo aw

grl were you singled out then you can go and sit in that corner while I read them a book

(laughter)

grl in a sound-proofed room

(laughter)

jo hhh and Julie did you say

grl well yeah cause my old well not my older my dad read them to my older brother and then he sort of read them to me again I probably didn't understand very much of it but . yeah

grl I . think my mum did but I don't have a very clear memory of . anything hhh

jo and that would have been TPS was it?

grl yeah

jo the very first book okay so only two of you can remember a parent or another grown up reading it to you when you were very young

(sounds of agreement)

okay and do you remember your parents reading sort of anything to you at all when you were younger

(lots of them say yes)

okay anyone remember a specific

grl erm . there's . you know The Witches by Roald Dahl?

jo I do

grl well when we were very young there was like the Enid Blyton ones

jo yep

grl and then The Witches by Roald Dahl and then another one called The Indian in the Cupboard about thos like plastic toy that comes to life

grl oh yeah I remember that one

grl yeah it's good isn't it and she used to read that to us and then

grl and she read us erm The Little Princess and you know the The Secret Garden

grl I don't remember that

grl she didn't read them to you hhh just me and my sister and erm Adele lost interest so she just went upstairs

grl oh fine fair enough cotton wool in the ears

jo and you two are sisters?

grl yeah

jo okay hhh

grl my mum attempted to read me and my two siblings The Hobbit when we were like five

jo and how did that go?

grl not very well hhh

grl five?

grl well I like and she read me Ella Morag when I was like really young

grl (whispers) oh yeah

grl best books ever

grl yeah

grl *Hairy McClary*

grl yeah

(inaudible overlapping)

grl my mum read me *Alice in Wonderland* I think the first one *Alice Through the Looking Glass* and the second

Jo okay . and what was your first favourite book . I mean when you were really really young

grl Ella Morag

grl Oh I had this book like a picturebook called *Ignis* about this dragon who could breathe fire

grl *George's Marvellous Medicine*

grl I think I just used to like *The Hungry Caterpillar* cause you got to stick your fingers in the book hhh

 (laughter)

grl I liked *The Scruffy Pony* . it was really cute and I wanted a scruffy pony

grl aw

grl aw hhh

grl I was I you know you go through the levels in books when you're in primary school

grl yeah

grl I remember one it was sort of second from top and it was about goats and I really enjoyed it

 (laughter)

grl I thought those books were terrible

grl well there was one good one

grl hhh about goats hhh

jo does everyone else remember that reading scheme?

grl yeah

grl yeah

Jo what did everyone else think of those books?

grl there were alright

grl I just got through it all really fast

grl yeah

grl yeah you're just reading the same (thing as the top of the range) and just it's kind of getting boring

jo right

grl I remember one about dinosaurs that was kind of good

grl oh and the first you know you they give you books that just have pictures in but no words

grl yeah

grl and then you kind of you have to make the story up well the first one I remember was *The Pancake*

grl Did that not have words in it?

grl no it didn't

grl well that was the first book I ever really

grl you know The Magic Key ones

grl yeah it was the (???) series

grl (???) pancake and it was stuck to the ceiling and it was absolutely hilarious

grl I think most of those books didn't really have a story though did they so you couldn't really get drawn into it

grl the TV series was good

(inaudible voices too quiet)

Jo you like The Magic Key TV series?

grl yeah

Jo okay anyone else to remember any erm books being read to them when they were very very small . or any titles you can remember?

grl they were kind of poem books and it was kind of when we were very young when we were 6 I've still got them cause I still like them hhh and the . erm . kind of in that sort kind of series of books

grl oh I liked *Judy Moody*

grl erm *Superfudge*

grl *Ms Wiz*

grl Oh I love *Ms Wiz*

grl erm *I don't like Peas*

Jo Oh Charlie and Lola is that?

grl oh yeah Chalie and Lola

grl and then there was one more oh what's it called . (The Gigglers)

grl The Gigglers

grl Horrid Henry hhh

grl The Gigglers hhh

grl Roddy Doyle treatment The Giggler Treatment yeah I liked that

grl oh yeah

grl I liked erm Josie Smith

grl Oh Josie Smith I went through all the treatments and I got all her little stories
(lots of overlapping)

grl Oh I like something like Mr Majeika I don't know

grl Oh my god yeah Mr Majeika

grl I've got them all at home

grl Do you remember Jamie and Angus

grl oh yeah with the little sheep thing

grl the little yak thing

grl do you remember oh what were they called they were like those doll those doll sort of
things and they lived on like a barge .

grl Rosie and Jim

grl yeah

grl yeah

grl I didn't like them they scared me hhh

grl they were a bit scary but Jim was alright

grl oh I didn't like Jim

grl when I was about five my sister started The Angus Thongs and Perfect Snogging
(lots of laughter)

grl that explains a lot hhh .

Jo hhh okay . right okay so erm what is it that you like about the Harry Potter books then
you've all obviously said that you've read at least a couple of these

grl I like how it's sort of like . I dunno like when I I think I watched the movie before I read the book and I liked the whole idea about it like how it's so different to what you would have thought it would be about

grl like a parallel world

grl yeah it's sort of like something you never really thought would happen in real life so I like the whole idea of it

grl and when you're reading them they're quite vivid and you can you can picture it the problem was when you watch films you just remember the characters from the films and you can't really make it up

grl but like with sort of I dunno but it's with them the like characters and stuff it's the same characters in each book and they describe quite a lot about them but you know all the some of it you've got to make up yourself so you sort of they sort of become part of who you are you know as well as sort of

grl like erm I don't really like I don't erm enjoy fantasy that much so I was a bit sort of sceptical about reading these and then because it convinced me that I really enjoyed them (wow) them to be pretty good I hadn't previouslt liked any fantasy stories and . they're just really . especially the first one . they're just really cosy . I read it whenever when you've finished a really big book and you just want some thing .

grl light

grl that'll erm and I'll just take the Philosopher's stone up to bed and just read it and it's just really nice

jo okay

grl I like how detailed they are and like that's why I really like this one cause it's like cause it goes on for like ages and you just get to read it for ages

jo which one

grl The Order of the Phoenix cause it's like the biggest and you don't want it to end

grl I like how the characters age as well like when they stay the same age and then you sort of get older than them then that's really annoying

grl I just like how the characters are quite relatable and cause a lot of it's based in a school there's like bits that you can relate to cause even though it's a completely different world and it's magical it's still quite like there's just little things that you kind of know that's happened to you as well it is almost like following their lives and it's like that's what's normal to them and then it's just learning about this whole different kind of world

grl yeah cause like even though Harry's got to like fight the darkest wizard ever he's still got to deal with you know like starting secondary school bullies and all that sort of thing that everyone else has got to deal with

grl I like how you can grow up with them I never read them all at once I read like one and then two years later I started reading them again but it's like you can grow up with the characters as well like in some of them like Twilight you just stop they don't age or anything and even though there isn't like a proper love story it's still better than Twilight (giggles) like you can grow up with each character individually and you can grow up with the school and you can you know everything by the end like you're like you've been there with them throughout it all but you haven't actually had your name in the book hhh

jo that's really interesting does anyone else agree with that

(lots of 'yes')

grl like I like how you sort of like understand all of the attitudes of each of the characters so you start to have opinions on them and stuff and you like make if you're like half way through the book you sort of I dunno if it's just me but I shout at books at stuff I don't want to happen

(laughter and agreement)

I do that a lot in the Harry Potter ones hhh

grl like with the quidditch match she's like a football hooligan sitting there with a book on my bed going come on Bulgaria

(laughter)

grl Umbridge is my least favourite

grl no Umbridge is amazing

grl she's a good character she's just mean

grl yeah she really is

grl that's why it's good though cause it's frustrating

grl JK Rowling can actually like make you want to punch the book

grl I just hate her

g I'd play her I'd play her in the film I think she's awesome

grl you'd be a great Umbridge

hhh

grl oh thanks she's amazing

Jo . okay any other favourite characters from the book rather than the films

grl ooh erm . Luna

grl yeah Luna's great

grl she annoys me

grl I like her it's like she's not afraid to be different

grl and she's

grl she's amazing and . Fleurh

grl a bit airy fairy

grl and amazing

hhh

grl I really like Fred and George

yes (several voices)

grl Peeves I love Peeves

grl oh yeah yeah cause he isn't in the movie

grl I love him cause he's horrible hhh

grl I know we're not meant to talk about the movies but Peeves was left out of the movies so I think he's like really cool

grl were you a bit 'Peeve'd about that?

hhh (all laugh)

grl Hedwig's awesome

grl oh Hedwig's amazing

Jo what about on this side any favourite characters?

grl I liked Fred and George too

grl I can't remember the books I read them a long time ago

Jo okay

grl I like the main characters like you can't not like them can you I suppose

grl yeah

grl they're just loveable they're like your best friends or your siblings or something . you don't want sometimes you don't want to like them but you just have to

grl they're not perfect but you've been through so much you can't not like them if you know what I mean

grl exactly like . you're there with them like I said before but you're not actually like they don't even know you exist but . you're there

grl hhh

Jo and is there one particular book that you like more than

grl this one (sound of tapping on book)

grl G of F

grl G of F

grl Oh G of F and maybe P of A I like best

grl I like these two

grl no mine's just O of the P
(overlapping, inaudible)

Jo okay maybe we could just go round and you could say so Maria what was yours sorry?

grl erm the PS and then The G of F

Jo okay

grl O of the P

grl mine's a mix between G of F and O of the P

grl mine's O of the P and the C of S

grl erm The PS and P of A

grl erm The G of F

grl erm The PS and P of A

grl PS

grl The O of the P and The P of A and of course the first one

hhh

grl The PS

grl The DH

grl ooh

Jo okay excellent erm when when you're reading those parts that you've mentioned the bits that you like about them can you put into words how it makes you feel

grl when they're going down Diagon Alley and it's just it (one girl whispers 'I love that part')
makes you feel so (one girl says 'magical') happy and he gets all his he ticks off all the things
on his list and he gets his

grl when they erm try butterbeer it's like really annoying cause you just wanna try it
hhh (lots of laughter and overlapping makes speech inaudible)

grl Honeydukes

grl it's your dream to just try that I'll get to try it in two years

grl oh are you going where you going?

grl Harry Potter World
(lots of intakes of breath)

grl you're going stateside?

grl are you going to the States?

grl you're going to Florida

grl yeah

grl ooh

grl we'll just have to bring a crate back

grl yeah hhh

grl and then we can get back together and just drink it

grl if I sell you my soul will you get me some stuff?
hhh

grl you can be an illegal sort of butterbeer smuggler
hhh

grl 'I use it for personal use I swear'
hhh

grl take it through customs
hhh

grl most people take alcohol or cigarettes

grl or drugs

grl we just take

grl smuggle butterbeer hhh

grl you'll be on one of those programmes like Border Force or something hhh

grl I think that would be really embarrassing though if you were like on one of those programmes and they're like (role-playing) 'what you smuggling?' (squeaky voice) 'Butterbeer' 'why?' 'cause it looks tasty'

hhh

grl because it's Harry Potter hhh

Jo hhh okay erm now is there anything you don't like about the HP books?

grl Harry

grl that they're over

grl yeah hhh

grl I cried when they were over I feel really pathetic especially when I watched the film and I realised that was the end

Jo I sure you weren't the only one

grl Harry gets on my nerves

Jo You don't like Harry?

grl well most of the time I like him but sort of when he's going through sort of his angst stage like these three ones (gestures towards 3 books)

Jo which ones say

grl The P of A, G of F and to some extent The O of the P he's just really annoying he's like 'Oh my parents are dead Ron rrr'

(lots of laughter)

grl that's an amazing impression

grl like he doesn't remember his parents are dead I mean like take Neville for example both of his parents are like they don't remember who he is but he just carries on with life you know even though he's sort of he's had that massive trauma in his life Harry doesn't even remember that his parents have died but he still takes it out and s it's sort of some days uses it as an excuse to be . not the ideal person

Jo okay anybody else agree with that does Harry annoy anyone else?

grl yeah

grl yeah

grl yeah

grl yeah and like sometimes he sort of doesn't realise things and you're like 'how it's so obvious'

grl what's this broom shaped package on this desk I bet it's a book

(lots of laughter)

grl like Ron knows what it is you don't Ron's supposed to be really dumb compared to you

Jo hhh okay anything else erm that you don't like about the books

grl Oh I don't well

grl The C of S is a bit boring

grl when people die in it

grl I think I like well I don't like I like I really enjoy The PS cause it's all sort of magicky and just really nice

grl yeah

grl but when you get to these last three ones they're really depressing there's death eaters and dementors coming out everywhere I mean I want there to be time for a bit of you know . Charms lessons

grl yeah but I think there is

grl or something you know

grl yeah you miss that don't you?

grl yeah but there is in the bit in like the middle

grl in the first ones cause I started reading them when I was a kid and stuff it's like you dream about all the magic and stuff and then it gets to the end (overlapping) and everyone's dying it's like 'Oh'

grl yeah the worst bits like when you turn 11 and your letter still hasn't come

grl the fact that they put an age limit on it is just hell

grl I put it in my diary I might get my Hogwarts letter

grl I don't like that she kills all the characters off that's really annoying

grl slightly an unnecessary amount of death I think in the last one I mean Hedwig dying?

grl you can't kill an owl

Jo yeah you were saying that you don't like the amount of death too

grl and Sirius

grl it's like when you just find out some of the characters and you start to like them and then they die and you're like . 'oh'

 (laughter)

grl no you grow att you you you've had all these all the first

grl you grow attached to the characters (overlapping)

grl you grow attached to them and then she just JK Rowling just sort of chucks them away like . what

grl yeah I know it's like with Mad Eye Moody when for the whole book that he was in it turns out that it wasn't even him

grl yeah

grl and then for the next one he like dies (lots of laughter) and it's just like . 'oh'

grl you don't get chance to

grl get to know him

grl get to know him

grl before he dies

grl and all the horcrux . like . stuff and everything it's really complicated you can't just like read it you have to be like 'I need to concentrate on every word'

grl when you're trying to explain it to someone you sound like insane (laughter) 'oh yeah so like you split his soul into like these seven pieces and then you put it into like a load of inanimate objects and then they went on a big hunt and it was awesome'

 (laughter)

grl I think they should there might have been a few . she would have got by with less horcruxes I think

grl really?

grl there was quite a lot

grl well

grl no because there's seven each one for every xxx

grl technically eight including him

grl oh yeah that yeah .

Jo okay anything else before we move on that you don't like about the books?

grl there could have been more in the P of A

grl no it's amazing

grl no but there could have been more to it . rather than just finding Sirius and then . happy

grl yeah that's why I like it it's nice it's action

grl there could have been . more hhh

grl I think in the C of S there's sort of too much suspense and not enough action because basically the first part is there's some writing on the wall

grl what

grl (laughter) that's the first part basically and I th yeah there's too much sort of like sneaking around corners finding out all the mysteries

grl I think you could like . I dunno in th in the first in the P of A like I don't think you get to know really like how bad Azkaban is in that one

grl that's true

grl yeah

grl I mean as it like gets on to like the other books then you sort of she develops it more but it doesn't really sound like there's that well obviously it sounds really bad but you know

grl like just a muggle prison

grl yeah

grl yeah

grl I don't like how it like cause it's so detailed you like want to be there it's like the perfect place and then you finish reading and you're like . oh . it's not real

(laughter)

grl do you think they're a bit mugglist?

(laughter)

grl it annoys me

grl they are

Jo muggle-ist?

grl yeah just putting it out there cause like I felt terrible as a muggle reading all these books

(laughter)

grl I'm like 'don't treat us as a second class citizen I might organise a protest march'

(laughter)

grl the one thing I don't like about it this sounds absolutely ridiculous but I wish I could just make the first three grow the books cause if you look at the last four they're really big and I know the first three probably get you into it and then it goes to like describing a lot more and going back to the past and stuff but I just wish the first three were just a little bit bigger

grl maybe they should just make the font bigger

grl yeah

grl so you could have more pages (overlapping)

grl like one page a word I'm happy

grl like a little flip book

grl with a little drawing of harry

grl that's be cool .

Jo okay have we want to about what we don't like about the books? . anyone else want to add anything . no okay . right so is or has have the Harry Potter books ever been your favourite fiction?

grl yes

grl yes

grl yes

grl yes

grl no

grl (intake of breath)

(laughter)

Jo for those of you that said yes does everyone except sorry what was your name

grl Emma

Jo Emma so for everyone except Emma is saying yes are they

grl no

Jo no ah okay so everyone except Emma and Bella so eight of you yes and two of you no so erm of those of that said yes erm how old would you have been or is it even now

grl it was last year wasn't it so in year 8 really

grl yeah

grl when I was about 10 or 11

grl maybe a bit older

grl maybe last year as well when I was about 12 probably

Jo when you were about 12 okay

grl 12

grl 12ish

grl yeah like maybe 11 or 10

grl about 10

Jo about 10

grl about like 11 or 12

grl 10 or 11

Jo right okay and erm for those of you that said no how would you compare it with other fiction?

grl erm it just never been one of my favourite books the series it's never . they are really good but I've always had books that I'd rather go to than the HP ones . erm . I really enjoy the classics and I'd much rather go to one of them than the HP ones

Jo okay

grl erm I think they were good but I think I might have been a bit too young to understand them when I read them . and I've got quite a erm a few series of books that I like a lot a lot a lot a lot

grl yeah I had a series of books that I really enjoyed and then you get another series of books but you always stick to your first love so I always preferred that one

grl the thing is you start comparing them maybe and then they just you just find the bad things about them compared to your favourite ones and it just kind of . it's not as good in that sense but it's maybe just cause they're so different

Jo right yeah okay

grl well like I've had like the G of F was my favourite book for a while but as a series I think there are series that I like better

Jo right

grl I think they used to be my favourite ones but as I'm like growing up I've got more into like action where stuff like happens all the time I mean like we said before in a few of them it's more suspense than actual stuff happening so .

Jo okay . great erm so why do you think that some people don't read the HP books?

grl cause they can't be bothered

grl maybe they just

grl the size

(lots of overlapping)

grl it is a bit intimidating

grl that's (holds book up) quite daunting to read isn't it

grl it's quite a commitment cause it's I dunno

grl cause when you read a series you want to read it all at once unless you really don't like it it's kind of

grl yeah and also like fantasy like I don't like any other fantasy except like Harry Potter . cause I've tried the Hobbit and stuff and it's just like . I don't like it but I think like a lot of people think 'oh it's just another fantasy book' so then they don't

grl I think it's

grl they might be put off by the genre

grl everyone knows it and some people think I can't actually be bothered to read it

(overlapping)

grl and I think it's like the movies are so big

grl yeah they watch the films

grl a lot of people watch the films

grl and they just think they know everything about them

grl I think it's the size of the books cause people can't be bothered reading them

grl yeah

grl you can split that (holding up G of F) into sort of four of them (holding up C of S) cut them up and you'd get more readers from it

grl I think some people like some people like Emma said it's just not their genre like they prefer other stuff and like . yeah

grl I think what's happened is nowadays more people are watching movies than reading so they think now they've seen the movies there's no point reading the books but the books are actually like so much better . than the films

(31 mins 21 seconds)

grl And i think like as the last one came out like there may have been more people buying the last book. but . as the last one came out so did the *Twilight* series so they were like 'oh but that looks quite interesting and new so let's read that' and then once the *Twilight* finished *The Hunger Games* came out so like they probably just put it off and then never got back to like reading it cause they were like '*The Hunger Games* hasn't all come out yet so if we read the rest of them then we'll know before the movie'

grl mmm cause there's loads of books that i've like intended to read for like five years but i've never got round to it

grl I think some people if you're sort of twelve or thirteen when you start reading them i . i think sometimes people would tease you about reading cause if you look at the covers . of the books then like if you were with a group of friends they might think 'oh thats a bit childish' or something (sounds of agreement) like like if you're reading *The Philosopher's Stone* people would think

grl people would say oh you're still on *The Philosopher's Stone*

grl so you're still reading harry potter and then everyone else is on to different things

grl yeah

Jo Okay . and someone said before it was geeky or nerdy or something like that did they who said that

grl i don't know but it sort of is

Jo some people might think it

grl it kind of is

grl yeah it is

grl it is

grl and if you see like . if you see a ten year old carrying around this you think wow thats a clever child [Jo laughs] so

grl its almost like its proper. Its. I know this sounds weird but its proper it's like a proper book cause a lot of people read books that are a bit

grl younger for them

grl yeah

grl yeah

grl yeah not in their age group for them

Jo okay

grl i think its cause like the fact harry potter fans harry potter readers are so enthusiastic and engaged and everything that sort of . unironic enthusiasm is just sort of its like people link it to being a geek and being a nerd like

grl yeah

grl mm hm

grl i think it's like . it's sort of like how people if they're watching a tv show or a movie or something and they get really enthusiastic about it their friends'd think it'd be normal but cause it's a book i think everyone would think different to that

grl yeah

grl yeah

grl yeah so like being . reading is sort of stereotypically a nerdy thing isn't it

g yeah

grl yeah cause our group is cause we read

grl everyone thinks . oh yeah you're nerds

(laughter)

Jo does everybody agree with that . that if you read it's nerdy

(overlapping)

grl it's not

grl it's not but like

grl it's not

grl I don't think

grl I don't agree with it

grl it's not but like thats . what people say

grl yeah

grl yeah

grl yeah i don't think we're nerds

grl no

Jo yeah yeah . that's what i meant everybody that you know

grl maybe not reading but maybe if you keep going on about it all the time

Jo right

grl no i think people just think that reading is

grl yeah

grl yeah

g it's a shame cause so many people in our set is like oh i don't reading i'm not reading

grl yeah

grl they say like 'why are you reading' and like you can't really explain that you know you read because . and they say read 20 . you know you get assigned books in English they say read twenty pages and they go (intake of breath) 'Oh really that much'

grl it's not that much

grl it sort of makes it into a chore doesn't it if you're set . you've got to read this amount in this amount of time like it sort . sort of

grl thing is though if you didn't we just wouldn't read it

grl we don't do that

grl exactly

grl true

grl id rather read than watch . like . a tv program or something .

grl i don't know

grl like . it depends what type of book it is but if it was something that i was interested in . like harry potter or the hunger games then i'd be drawn into that more than watching tv

grl you get so much more out of it though

grl yeah

grl more detail

grl and it nicer to like read the book than watch the movie and then see how different it is

grl yeah like i think if you . if you sort of watch the films you think 'oh, then thats it then thats enough' but if you read the books and then you watch the film afterwards

grl yeah i guess

grl you can critic it like oh that bit was good that bit wasn't . can . you can compare it to the books and its more funner

grl you can't get a narrator in films

grl no so you can't get the detail a lot

grl and you can't . you can design your own characters in the . in the book which is . which is great

grl i just sometimes shouted at films which just they . they look completely different

grl i know

g it's so annoying

grl its horrible

grl it can upset you though because you're so . if you've read the book then you . there's characters and there's things but then they don't put it in the movie and you're like but that needs to be in the movie

grl yeah

grl i know

grl maybe like . Emma Watson i think she is really good at Hermione but then if she . if you compare her to the Hermione in the books it just like she's way too pretty to be Hermione cause Hermione's supposed to be like . ugly . well not ugly but you know

grl like her hair's too flat

grl her hair's too flat

grl it needs to be more like out here

grl but they sort of sexed her up during the last films don't they . made her sort of more attractive

grl it's just to get more male viewers

grl yeah exactly yeah

grl it's just fake

grl that's what i think

grl it wasn't for us

(Laughter)

Jo okay . is there anything else about the um the film . anything that you preferred in the books when um once you've seen the film.

grl peeves

grl yeah peeves

Jo ah peeves

grl quidditch world cup

grl the detail

grl yeah

Jo okay

grl it like . i don't

grl some things are missed out in the films that . were in the books so you'll kind of like wait for them to happen and they didn't really happen

grl mm

grl like little

grl i think the styles of the films are much different to the style of the books . if you know what i mean it's . sort of things can happen in a different order

grl i think . it's so confusing to cause if you've read the books first and then you watch the movie you'll lose track of it cause you're waiting for something to happen and when it doesn't it's . skipped a few scenes from the book . you get really confused

grl yeah

Jo okay . and can you think of specific things that you think the book did better than the film?

grl the quidditch world cup

grl the patronus

grl oh yeah patronuses

grl they're . there like . it was just like 'hey ball of light' but it wasn't shaped like a stag

grl i know

grl and then this little stag appeared and we're like 'that's not what it looks like'

grl yeah cause like t comes our of your wand and it attacks the dementors cause with harry its . in the films it's just light and then you see sometimes see a stag

grl mm

grl and then that's it

grl but you can see it before you get into it yet you can go 'that's harry'

grl yeah

grl i like that

grl i love that bit in prisoner of . no . deathly hallows when harry's patronus goes up a lift with him that's quite hilarious

grl its like i think the bit where um harrys got the invisibility cloak in the library as well in the movie i thought . i dunno i thought it was a bit

grl it looked too fake

grl it didn't look very good

Jo so you thought it was better in the book

grl yeah

grl the order of the phoenix when they go to Sirius' house and they have the um portrait and . of Sirius' mum and it always opens and screams at them in the book but . that's not in the film

jo okay

grl no and um . and also like even when they go to sirius's house it like . the way it sort of moves . its sort of like 'nah it doesn't do that'

grl its like i dunno . its too clunky when it in the thing . in the movie

grl the quidditch world cup . i know ive said this about ten times but sort of in . im just really hung up about it like cause its one of my favourite bits of all of . of all of the books and but in the film it's just they go round and you can tell they've spent loads of money on the bits that they actually did . and they go round and they sort of . what does he do to show that the match has begun? Does he throw something in the air or something?

grl um yeah he just he throws the . the snitch

grl yeah he casts the snitch into the air and then it just cuts to harry in the tent and the demen

grl no you do see the

grl and they do loads on the dementors

grl no you see like . you see the teams going round

grl yeah you see them going round you just don't see all

grl you see the match start and then that's it . they're just like 'go' and the

grl yeah yeah but in the . in the book it's just the entire match it's like a . is it a chapter or is it

grl yeah it's like a chapter

grl its like a whole chapter and its absolutely brilliant and then the go to the tent and then it's the dementor attack

grl yeah like if you look at the last books and then you look at the films it's like cause the books are so detailed and like are quite big compared to the other ones

grl quite big . quite

grl quite

(lots of laughter)

grl and then the first lot it's like . the films are more or less the same length and it sort of shows sort of like . they've rushed it so they could fit everything in . and they haven't

grl yeah cause

grl i think . that one's bigger

grl um . order of the phoenix is the shortest film . but it's the biggest book

grl it like in um

grl it misses so much out it's like so annoying

grl and it like

grl oh that the thing . it um . misses out winky

grl yes

grl yeah

grl and she's like one of my favourite characters

grl she's like the best

grl and also

grl it like spends like a minute on creature it's just like angry angry

grl creature's well cute

grl and also like the end bit like you know when the um . they're all in the ministry of magic and stuff . and then ron gets attacked by . like loads of stuff happens to them . when they're doing magic

grl oh yeah

grl yeah

grl and in the film it's just like this like you know like little scene where they're just in the bit and it like misses so much out in that bit

grl did they do the statue? In the um . the statue of the golden witch and the wizard

grl yeah but Hermione stood next to it and you could only see like the bottom of it or something like out the corner of your eye

grl no no i think they did they i think they did come in and they went 'oh what is that' and then they were like . we did see it but it wasn't like

grl it wasn't like a massive thing but it was sort of like that's gross let's move on

grl mm

grl yeah

grl it's . i prefer . um . they do the great hall in the film and that is pretty impressive.

grl yeah it's like massive

grl with the candles and everything

grl but it sort of

Jo better than the book you think?

grl yeah

Jo the great hall

grl it's the same

grl it's sort of the same

Jo ah

grl yeah they've done really well on that bit but then the rest of Hogwarts . it's just so much better your imagination . telling it to you instead of it just being produced in front of you

grl yeah cause most of Hogwarts is just corridors isn't it . and staircases

grl yeah but they just make . i dunno its just

grl and they miss out . they miss out the whole kind of kitchen bit like again winky . and they missed out um . Hermione and the house elves and then they go into the kitchen and winky's been set free and she's there and it's like

grl that's really cute

grl and she's on that couch and she's drinking all that butter beer

grl yeah

grl yeah

grl and i think that they could have done better on like the character development cause . like tonks and remus . they were . in the order of the phoenix quite a bit

grl nothing about tonks

grl yeah

grl and then in the book at the end tonks is all like we're pregnant yay . well she's pregnant

(laughter)

grl that would be magical

grl that would be magic yeah

(laughter)

grl and then remus goes round to the weasleys and they all have drinks and its all fun and then in the . film . like right at the end they're all dead and it's just like what are you gonna do with your son and then if you haven't read it you'd just be like . (shocked voice) 'what?'

(laughter)

grl what son what happened

grl when you imagine it it's like 'woah'

grl and the people who died as well like . does . does lupin die in the last one?

grl yeah

grl lupin and tonks both die in the last one . and like . they do a massive thing on fred's death but with lupin and tonks the camera goes over them and so . oh they're dead

grl well it's because in the movies they weren't massive characters compared to fred and George so . thats like why

grl like remus was like harry's sort of guide . for like the whole thing and so really

grl no cause they've only got two and a half hours at tops to film that much into a film and it's just so hard to do that so i don't blame them

grl they should've made like a part two though like they did

grl yeah . it's still not gonna be as good as the books at the end of the day

grl yeah

grl yeah but they could have put a bit more detail

grl yeah thats the thing . i don't like the last two books i think cause there was such a big gap between the two movies it was sort of like . 'how did it finish again like how did the first part finish' and you sort of forget it a bit

grl i watched one of the movies and then watched the other one . and there was . like all the way through them

grl i watched them both when they came out . i watched the first ones when they came out

grl i did that

grl the first part and then i watched the second one part

grl oh, id didn't cause i wanted to finish reading the book before i finished watching the films . and i'm glad is did actually because . i did escape all the film hype but um . it's like a rule for me . especially with harry potter that . i wont watch the film till i've read the book

grl i actually quite like . cause i read . i think i watched the movie of prisoner of askaban before i read the book and then the book seemed so much better and it's like but you sort of know what to expect, i dunno i quite liked it in a way because it sort of seemed like even more detail to the character you've already seen.

grl you can't get the image of harry . Daniel Radcliffe . out of your head

grl that is really annoying

grl cause like . if you hadn't seen it . i bet he'd be completely different

grl you just can't get out of your head the picture . it's really annoying.

grl even, even he looks a bit like Daniel Radcliffe (pointing at book cover)

grl i know that one does yeah

grl i hate that people only watch the films though cause the books are so amazing that you just need to read them like to get it i they think like 'i know the story of harry potter' like 'no you don't you know about a quarter of it . the rest of the detail's in the book

(laughter)

grl yeah cause like the first book is like wow all new and exciting and then it gets darker and darker and darker until the last book is all about sort of dealing with losing people and death

and all that and i dunno it's sort of harder to pick up that message in the films than it is in the books

grl cause some people kind of can't

grl is this the last one here? (gesturing to book) can i have a look for a second?

grl its more of a kind of action movie the last ones

grl they need to actually put the book into a movie again . but . make it the book

Jo the missing parts like?

grl yeah

grl in the

Jo okay

Jo oh sorry go on

grl in the books

jo that's not the end of school is it?

grl no

grl right okay

grl nineteen years later bit everyone's like 'reunion yay lets all have a fun fun talk' and then it's just harry looking sort of deeply into the middle distance . like (melancholy tone) 'goodbye son . mm .' (laughter) and then it's over

grl i don't actually like that bit even in the book

grl i like voldemort in the films cause

grl noses are over rated

(laughter)

grl cause it's Ralph Fiennes and i really like him as an actor

grl i don't like him

grl i'm scared of him

grl and i think he does it really really well considering in the books

grl hes sort of sort of got that mix of sort of like really power hungry and that sort of like childlike weakness you know

grl it's just amazing . how they've done that in the films

grl yeah

grl i love that bit in the order of the phoenix where harry has that dream and voldemort is in a suit on the platform

grl oh yeah

grl that is so scary

grl i prefer the first Dumbledore in the philosopher's stone film

Jo in the film yeah

grl um and then i sort of

grl i think

grl in a way though it sort of changes quite well like

grl i do . because the first the first few films are really suited the first Dumbledore cause it's all quite happy and he's quite slow

grl he's like father Christmas isn't he

grl and then it goes to the more stronger Dumbledore and he seems a lot

grl the greatest wizard of all time

grl i dunno i think

grl and um also when you're in the movies i think they sort of under played the moony padfoot and prongs.

grl and Sirius as well

grl absolutely

grl absolutely

grl and also the fact that um . snape and his dad hated each other . and how horrible they like . james was to snape i think that's really underplayed in the movie

grl mm

grl yeah

grl he sort of

grl you think he's the bad guy the whole way through but he's not

grl i think snape's a bad guy basically the whole time apart from when he's crying at the end and dies

grl and like harry looks up to his dad so much and to find out that he was a bully that did like that sort of thing to snape

grl in the books it's really like good

grl he's just completely shatters

grl and like he is protecting his mother because of this like strong love that he has for her like

grl i cried

grl that's a really like good love story and stuff

grl i really liked um snape in the books . i though he was gonna be ruined by the films but then he is portrayed pretty well . cause it thought they were gonna make him like softer and not as harsh

grl yeah

grl yeah he is really good

grl but they didn't do that

grl no it was . it was good

grl i do sort of . alan rickman was just perfectly cast he was

grl he was really good

grl yeah

grl and i like hagrid as well

grl oh yeah yeah

grl that west country accent was pretty good

grl i like the . the part when all the letters come through mailbox that's my favourite part

grl oh yes best bit ever

grl uncle Vernon

grl i love that bit when they're running away from the letters it just makes me laugh like . they can't get away

grl you can't run away from magic

grl when he's nailing up the the windows and he says um he um tiptoed through the tulips while he worked and jumped at small noises . like you can imagine like a big man just like completely paranoid you know

grl that's exactly how i imagined it you know I was like 'oh mum there's been the best thing ever in my book' and like explained it and i saw the film and thought 'oh they've kept it in'

Jo excellent

grl harry's just in the middle of the room and there's letters everywhere he just looks delighted yeah

grl i like it when they go away and they meet hagrid and hagrid's just like 'got this cake' and he's like 'sorry i may have sat on it once but'

grl oh yeah

(laughter)

grl oh i love that bit in the film when he knocks down that door and it's really scary and there's lightning behind him

grl and then the pig

grl yeah and he turns Neville into a pig

grl he goes 'jesus Harry you've fattened up a bit'

grl and he's like 'i'm not harry'

(laughter)

grl i'm harry

grl yeah it's funny .

jo okay . now um do any of you think that reading the harry potter books helped you improve your reading in any way?

grl yeah

grl yeah

Jo how?

grl i think it like made my imagination a lot better

grl it made me to read more

grl it made me want to read more books afterwards

grl it made you committed to bigger books

Jo different types of books?

grl yeah

grl yeah

grl i didn't really read and so . yeah . and then i was just like (sarcastic tone) 'oh big books yay'

grl guilty . i used to skip chapters

grl miss a chapter out

grl so i just started reading

grl I've always liked reading really but then you read like the order of the phoenix when you're like eleven and you're like 'oh yes i've read the order of the phoenix' and they're like 'oh really have you read anything else that big' and hmm . yeah of course (laughter)

Jo so it feels like an achievement reading bigger

grl yeah so then you want to go and read other ones

Jo okay

grl its sort of a kudos thing you say 'oh yeah read this'

grl yeah

grl you enjoy it

grl i kept missing chapters which were boring out of it . so i didn't

grl this one (holding up book)

grl yeah

grl i love it

grl oh it is well good that

grl i don't know i was just like . i always read it at night and i was really tired so i just flipped chapters

grl to get to the interesting bit?

grl yeah

grl guilty

grl even in boring books i can never skip pages cause i feel like i'm cheating on the book

(laughter)

grl yeah

grl or i read it and i'm like oh i need to read back cause like the beginning of halfblood prince there's like five chapters on talking to the prime minister

grl oh yeah

grl it's so boring

grl it's like (exasperated tone) 'just get on with it'

grl it's like when you've got a wife and she's horrible and . but you sort of can't . you don't wanna leave her so you just wait for her to die and get a new wife

grl well no and also in the last one when they're not at Hogwarts for ages or is that

grl oh yeah

grl i think that's . that is the last one isn't it . and you're like . i got really bored it's like no i just want you to go to Hogwarts and be at Hogwarts

grl when they're camping

grl oh my g

grl yeah i don't like the way on the first film like the first of the deathly hallows . deathly hallows part one it was like so boring they didn't even . they hardly even found any horcruxes and then in the second part it was just like loads of action and they're doing everything at once.

grl death

grl and there was just like

grl they could have separated them and put like more action in the first one

grl yeah cause the first one is like ninety percent camping and ten percent actual horcruxes

grl and also . the way that voldemort died . because in the books there's everyone stood around and they have this massive like jewel thing and in the film it's just you know . they're just like stood in this courtyard

grl and he dies like . in the book he dies like a normal man he dies like a mortal man and that's the whole point you know voldemort was trying to cheat death he's trying to become immortal

grl and then in the film he dies like some sort of dandruff man i dunno

grl flake flake

(laughter)

Jo okay so going back to how um . you think it might have helped you improve your reading

grl oh yeah

(laughter)

grl bit off topic

Jo just slightly (laughter)

Jo um would it be maybe um you know longer books it helped you read faster any any

grl just um

grl it made me want to read more like series of books

grl yeah i started getting into actual kind of following on series and i kept i started telling my mum off much more after she just gave me random books out of series

grl i hate that when people

grl oh yeah

grl it's so annoying

grl like when people give you like number seven and you're like 'sorry'

grl i got number fourteen of these books seriously

grl my mum gave me the last Percy Jackson book first and i just read it and then i couldn't read any other ones

grl yeah my mum got me the last lord of the rings like for my birthday she was just like 'hey'

grl my mum once said to me i think it was after i saw the first hunger games film she was like 'why don't you go and see it and then you can read the second and third books' i was like 'without reading the first one?' and she was like 'but you'd have seen the film' and i was like 'it's not the same mum i can't do that' hhh

grl it makes you sort of um i dunno . for some people its like their first proper book or you know

Jo big novel

grl yeah big sort of book

Jo right okay

grl that sort of encourages you to read other books that you might not have thought of reading them before cause they were so big

Jo okay

grl but then when you've read more

grl cause i remember reading like order of the phoenix and then . i said 'mum what's a novel' and she said of 'its like a . a sort of a longish fiction story a bit like the order of the phoenix' and i thought 'i'm reading a novel'

(laughter)

Jo and so do you think its encouraged you to go on to read other things . i know some of you have already said um like series

grl before i read harry potter, literally all i read . right don't kill me but i only read twilight and the scruffy pony (laughter) and then i was just like 'oh my god i don't wanna read harry potter cause it's like really bad' yeah

grl look where you are now

grl yeah and then my friend was just like 'you're gonna have to read it or i'll kill you and everyone else will kill you' and then i was just . (desperate tone) 'i don't wanna die' so then i just had to read it

(laughter)

grl death threats . great way of getting kids reading

(lots of laughter)

grl okay so what what other authors or type of fiction do you think it . harry potter might have encouraged you to go on to reading . maybe you didn't . maybe they didn't but do you think it did

(bits inaudible due to overlapping)

grl oh you know they do that thing like if you like this you'll like this

grl yes

grl mine didn't work because it was like if you like harry potter then read the hobbit . oh i don't like the hobbit

grl i don't like the hobbit . it just bored me

grl i like the hobbit

grl the first chapter i was like right as much as i like reading and as much as i need to finish it . i cant .

grl i like the movie hobbit but im not im not .

grl lord of the rings trailer's out

grl it spends like an hour and a half just like (dramatic tone) 'and then he turned the page it was an old page as though it had been there for millions of years but it hadn't' (laughter)

grl is this lord of the rings

grl yeah

grl cause it was new

grl yeah cause it's like . i like you know like harry potter obviously i like reading good series but just . just too much commitment like i'm sorry you know . too much

grl i think if i'd read or watched or got read any of the lord of the rings or the hobbit or anything like this or like that even cause its not . i think i would have like liked it more but cause i read these when i was older i think i knew what it was on about and i knew like the story lines a bit better and cause all my family read them cause it was like this big thing they all loved it like they'd sit around a table like this and just talk about it and i was like i like watching films then thats why they betted me to read it but if i would have read or got read something like the hobbit or . like the whole series of the lord of the rings or star wars (laughter) that's what everyone is talking about i just thought you know . like i think i would have been more interested in it

Jo oh okay

grl or if people would have told me a bit more like tried to get me into it i would have read them . but

grl i um . i didn't enjoy fantasy and read these and thought 'oh lets pick some more fantasy books'

Jo and you . and you have done?

grl well i have but i didn't enjoy them . so i thought how good these actually are if i've enjoyed them but not enjoyed other fantasy ones.

grl they let you down

grl yeah

grl yeah they do

grl same

grl it got me reading (?) books as well

grl they let you down . other books compared to Harry Potter

grl the like suggestions like you can read this now because you're a fantasy fan now and its like 'no i'm not really'

grl yeah its sort of you sort of looking for that same kinda buzz that harry potter gave you and then when it doesn't deliver you're just so disappointed you know

grl things like . i went onto these after the hunger games and that was like a good series

grl yeah

grl but it's nothing like harry potter is it

grl you can't link the two

grl it's like more dystopian . like sci fi

grl I like sci-fi I like sort of dystopian

grl and Malory Blackman the Noughts and Crosses one I've read all them really quickly they were really good . they were very good

grl that book scared me it freaked me out

Jo okay . right um what I'd love for you to do now is . if we could just go round the table one by one and for each book if you could say whether you've um read the book seen the film um so let's . where are they . let's put them in order . ah there we go . so if we could start with you Maria . if you . if you have done both can you remember which one you did first is it read the book or seen the film . don't worry if you can't remember . so for the philosopher's stone for Maria . have you read the book and seen the film?

grl yeah . i read the book first and then

Jo okay . and chamber of secrets?

grl i read the book first and then watched the film

Jo okay . what's the next one . prisoner of Azkaban

grl i read the book and then watched the film

Jo have you done this for all seven

grl yeah

(lots of laughter)

Jo ah . okay thats a quicker way of doing it . so Fleur how about yourself?

grl um . i think i must've seen the film first cause all my family liked it and then

grl is this for all seven or do you want to go through them one by one?

grl um . i think for the first four

Jo okay

grl and then . no in fact all of them

Jo all of them you read the book first and then saw the film? Or was it the other way

grl no i saw the film . in fact up to the sixth one and then i read the books

Jo okay

grl um the first one i read the book first and then saw the film but then the rest of them apart from the deathly hallows i saw the film and then read the book . and then i read the deathly hallows before it came out

Jo okay . kiera?

grl well i read the book and then i watched the film for the first one and then for these two i watched the film and then read the book and then for the rest i read the book and then watched the film

Jo okay so from the goblet of fire onwards . okay

grl but then i read that one as well

Jo right hettie

grl i read the first four first um but ive only seen the films for the first second third once cause i don't like watching films

(laughter)

Jo okay . Adele

grl i think . the first and second ones and even the third to an extent the books and the films are quite mashed up in my memory and i don't remember which one came first but i just didn't really remember reading the last . four . um . before . before i watched the films

Jo okay . right Dawn?

grl um i watched the films before i read the first five i think and then i read the last two first

Jo okay . Sarah?

grl for the first three i read them first . and then i had like a block where i just watched . i watched all the movies up to half blood prince and then i read the deathly hallows before but i read them all after i watched the films

Jo okay (name)

grl i think ir read up to about that one

Jo goblet of fire

grl um i think after id watched some of the films and then i stopped watched all the films before i read these

Jo okay and Bella

grl um for the first four i watched the film first and then for the last three i've watched . i mean i read them first

Jo okay so you've read all seven? Yep . brilliant . and um . one last question then um have you ever shared any of the books with a friend or with um anybody else you know lent someone the books

grl all our friend group we sort of just they read it at the same time

grl read them all so sort of

grl i let one of my friends borrow my fifth one and then she nearly lost the cover

grl never guess who

grl you killed her

grl it was so . it was so annoying though cause the last book in . was it year six . most people had sort of finished reading or were reading the last book and sort of I I I hadn't started reading it it wasn't until quite recently when I read the last book er . and everyone was sort of saying who died and it was so annoying

grl aww

grl you're like 'don't tell me getting there slowly'

grl suggested it to . erm . when people . this erm . I was at this erm new year's party thing and this woman who was a teacher in year 6 said 'what's like a good book for kids who don't want to read?' and I said 'harry Potter' and she said 'alright' and then she came back and said they really enjoyed it

grl if I ever have kids I'll probably read them Harry Potter . it's one of the things like

grl one of the necessary requirements

grl yeah I'll probably read them all the books my mum read me but I'll definitely read Harry Potter .

Jo anybody else lend one of their books?

grl I've lent them all out to people

grl I've lent two out and never got them back

Jo ah okay

grl that was about two years ago so I'm not getting them back

grl I had the whole series and my brother who's nearly twelve he always just takes my books out of my room so he's read all of them now

grl me and my best friend like swapped the whole series of this cause I had that and then she swapped me for another series but that wasn't quite as interesting and I got mine back four years later

(laughter)

grl took her four years to read it it took her two years to read the first one and then she was like 'oh they're getting better'

grl I lent . well I didn't really lend them to my brother I took them out of the library and I was on this one (G of F) and my brother had just taken them when I didn't realise and he can read them in literally quarter of the time I do cause he's a speed reader it's so annoying so I would just put it on my bed side table went to sleep woke up and it had gone and he'd read half of it it was really anjoying and he didn't give me it back

grl we borrowed some of ours from our Harry Potter obsessed friend

grl yeah cause we've got all the books now to own them but but when I was reading the first I think I borrowed some .

(one audible yawn)

Jo right well I can see some of you are yawning hhh

grl sorry

(laughter)

Jo that was the last question anyway I'm only messing around well thank you all very much you've given us a lot of really interesting data there so erm yeah thank you very much and erm what time does school finish have you got long now?

Jo: okay well hello everyone. So erm well firstly thank you all so much for erm agreeing to take part in this discussion and also of course for filling in the online questionnaire on the Harry Potter books. My name's Jo and this is Jane and we're we're from the Linguistics department up at Lancaster University now we're doing a study looking at young people's attitudes towards the Harry Potter books so what we're gonna do today is called a focus group now this means I'm going to ask you some questions and I just want you to have a chat about them amongst yourselves so there are there are no right or wrong answers it's not a test we're just really interested in your opinion so just erm be as honest as you can and just say what you want when you want okay? you are free to say what you like when you like and you don't all have to agree but please try not to talk over one another especially as there are so many of you obviously give everyone a chance to speak if they want to and of course if you don't want to join in on a particular question then that's fine too so erm you're probably all very aware of this machine here it's just so I don't have to sit here scribbling away writing down everything you say I will type it out later and then we'll delete it so your teachers won't hear the recording and you'll all get a fake name as well so erm I think that's all I need to tell you erm so is is everyone happy?

(inaudible sounds of agreement)

Jo Yeah? now erm first of all if we could just go round and just say your name and the year you're in I think because possibly you don't all know each other so erm so if we could start with you is it Eliz

Grl Elizabeth year 8

Jo okay and

Grl Stef year 7

Grl Mia and I'm in year 9

Grl Carolyn year 9

Jo Carolyn year 9

Grl Gina year 8

Grl Naomi year 8

Grl Chloe year 8

Jo okay and

Grl Annie year 9

Jo and finally

Grl Janet year 7

Jo great thank you now erm so the first few questions are not about Harry Potter specifically just about your reading habits in general so first of all I'd just really like to know what you're all reading now . you don't have to put your hand up just speak whenever you want to

Grl I'm reading Song Hunter

Jo what's that?

Grl Song Hunter

Jo okay and is that a novel?

Grl yeah

Jo okay great anyone else?

Grl The Hunger Games

Grl yeah me too

Jo ah you're both reading The Hunger Games great so what about everyone else?

Grl I'm in I'm reading Looking for Alaska by (???)

Grl I I just I just read To Kill a Mockingbird

Jo Okay great . and erm anyone else want to share with us what they're reading at the minute? . no? . It doesn't have to be fiction novels it could be any erm anything maybe magazines or non-fiction or stuff off the internet . No? . you don't have to put your hand up just speak if you want to

Grl I like reading forensic science journals hhh

Jo forensic science journals wow very impressive

Grl yeah she does hhh .

Jo okay great now does anyone else want to share with us what they're reading at the minute . okay well where do you tend to be when you do most of your reading . where where is your favourite place to read .

Grl in bed

Grl yeah

Grl yeah in bed

Grl yeah

Jo okay so a few of you are nodding so most of you like reading in bed then and er is there would there be anywhere else you do a lot of reading

Grl at school

Grl yeah at school .

Jo okay so in bed or at school

Grl I'm always in bed they're the two places I ever am in bed or at school hhh

Jo hhh . okay anywhere else . no okay so erm now erm can anyone remember how you first heard about the *Harry Potter* books .

Grl er my mum used to read them to me

Grl yeah my erm my mum read them to me like before I was in before I erm went to bed

Jo great . anyone else .

Grl well my erm my friend is she is Harry Potter mad so she kept going on at me to re to read them so I in the end I decided to read them too

Grl yeah my friend did that to me too Annie told me about them and she was like you have got to read these books and I was like okay (exasperated tone) so I did

Jo hhh excellent okay anyone else .

Grl well erm my sis my sister encouraged me to read them and I think erm she might have she erm told me she was like read these .

Jo is that an older sister?

Grl yeah

Jo and how old would you have been then do you remember

Grl about . I dunno I was like 8 maybe

Jo okay now er Janet is it you said your mum used to read them to you, how old would you have been then do you think

Grl about 8 as well

Jo Okay now erm does anyone else remember a parent or other grown-up reading the Harry Potter books to them when you were younger

Grl yeah my er my mum read them to me too

Jo and how old were you

Grl about 6

Jo about 6 okay and erm anyone else . what about you girls that already said your mum read them to you how old would you have been about

Grl about 4

Jo okay and anyone else remember a grown up reading them to you when you were younger . right okay well now how about when you were very small, do you do any of you er remember your parents reading to you when you were very small

Grl (a few inaudible sounds of agreement)

Jo yeah some of you are nodding . okay and what was your favourite bedtime story from back then when you were very little as far back as you can remember .

Grl I used to love Roald Dahl

Jo yeah me too

Grl The Hungry caterpillar

Grl yeah I loved that book .

Jo anyone else

Grl I was really into The Worst Witch books

Grl The Cat in the Hat

Grl I had a I loved this book called I will Always Love You

Grl yeah hhh

Grl Oh that was such a sweet book .

Jo Okay any others you can remember . no okay then right now erm can anyone remember what it was that made you want to read your first Harry Potter book on your own?

Grl Chloe hhh

Grl hhh

Jo okay you talked her into it did you

Grl hhh maybe

Grl yes

Jo anyone else remember what it was that made them read their first Harry Potter book?

Grl Annie was reading the first one and she kept going on and on and on about it so I just thought I would have a read of it and see what the fuss was about and I erm I like read them all as they came out then

Jo okay .

Grl well I seen the film first and then I read the book

Jo right . anyone else

Grl all my friend were going on about it and I just thought I would pick one up and so I erm I did

Jo okay and what is it that you like so much about the Harry Potter books then?

Grl (whispering) so much

Grl I like the magic

Grl yeah the magic

Jo Okay a few of you are nodding there so erm lssy you said so much

Grl hhh yeah really

Jo anything in particular you can put your finger on or

Grl yeah I just love the story and the like characters and stuff

Jo okay great which characters

Grl yeah Ron

Jo who

Grl Ron Weasley

Jo okay and what is it that you like about Ron

Grl he is just like so cool and cute he just makes a makes a mess of everything and is just I dunno like . loveable hhh

Grl I love Bellatrix because she's evil and so am I

Grl hhh

Jo well you don't look it

Grl hhh

Jo okay anything anyone else likes about the books

Grl I love Luna she's just not even a character she's just Luna

Grl Luna rocks hhh

grl yeah

Jo anything else that stands out about the books in your mind

Grl I just like the intricate stories and stuff just seeing them all like link in across the books .

Grl I thought the howlers really stood they stand out in my mind

Grl yeah I'd love a howler hhh .

Jo okay and Stef were you going to say something just then?

Grl I just really like Hermione she's so like sassy and stuff

Jo excellent right then erm now is there perhaps anything that you erm that you don't like about the Harry Potter books . you're shaking your heads anything at all that you

Grl that they're finished

Grl yeah they should (???: Rustling sound making voices inaudible for about 3 seconds)

Jo (???) you don't like . anyone .

Grl when Bellatrix writes on Dobby's hand

Grl oh that bit's horrible

Grl that bit's freaky

Grl but you can't not love Helena .

Jo hhh anything else . okay right now erm has *Harry Potter* ever been your favourite fiction?

Grl it still is

Grl it so is

Grl yeah

Grl yeah .

Jo and why do you think it is that erm some people don't like reading er don't read the Harry Potter books .

Grl because they're peasants

grl hhh

Jo because they're peasants? Hhh okay any other type of people don't you think don't read them

Grl I suppose some adults too won't like don't read them cause they're might think they're kids' books

Jo okay . anyone else apart from some adults and peasants

Grl hhh

Jo right okay erm now do any of you think that erm Harry reading Harry Potter has helped you improve your reading in any way

Grl I learned most of my spelling from the Harry Potter books

Jo what spelling in general

Grl Yeah

Jo okay that's interesting

Grl yeah I got I probably I think I got a bigger vocabulary from reading them .

Jo right

Grl well it was the first big book I read so it like made me read like other bigger proper books

Grl yeah

Grl yeah

Jo okay so do others agree that it made them read other long books afterwards

Grl yeah I read The Lord of the Rings after

Jo okay how about anyone

Grl yeah I read The Hobbit

Jo great anyone else .

Grl I read . no sorry I can't remember

Jo no it's alright don't worry anyone else . no right now you've already erm answered that one so erm okay right now what I want to do now is just go around the table one by one and I'd like you each to tell me for each book er title whether you've read the book and or seen the film and if you've done both if you can remember which you did first okay so erm we started with you last time so we'll start with you this time Janet if that's okay so where is it er yes now this is an American copy so it's called *The Sorcerer's Stone* not *The Philosopher's Stone*

Grl god why would they do that

Grl that's just stupid

Jo hhh okay s Janet have you read the book?

Grl yes

Jo and have you seen the film

Grl yes

Jo and which did you do first

Grl book for all oh er apart from the first one I saw the fir er I saw the film first

Jo and the next one is The Chamber oh you read all the rest of the books before you saw the film right well that's easy enough hhh and erm so you you you've seen all the films too?

Grl yeah

Jo great now Annie how about you

Grl right well I read them all before I saw the films and I seen I er all the films oh but for these two

Jo that's the first 2 yeah Philosopher's Stone and The Chamber

Grl yeah for for these my mum probably read them to me before I saw the film but after that I read them myself before the film before I saw the films

Jo great and Chloe

Grl I read them all before I saw the films too you have to

Jo hhh okay and

Grl I saw the first . 4 films and then I started reading so I erm then I read the last 3 books before the films so erm . yeah

Jo okay great

Grl I don't know I think I read them all before but maybe I er . like the first few film I might have seen first I don't know hhh

Jo that's okay no problem erm . Carolyn how about you

Grl films first for all except these two

Jo Deathly Hallows and Half Blood okay and

Grl I saw all the films first and I still haven't read the last book but I seen I saw all the erm the films

Jo great and finally

Grl I saw the first the films first and then I went back and read all the books but from The Order of the Phoenix I read the books first

Jo great okay thanks for that it's it must be hard to remember that kind of thing so well done now erm can anyone remember anything from the fi erm the books from the books that they thought was better than in the film so anything the books did better . anything you can think of at all

Grl well the books are just so much the films miss half of it out

Grl yeah they left out loads

Jo okay any specific examples

Grl well in The Philosopher's Stone in the bottom in the end they like totally just like they leave out Hermione's bottles

Grl yeah and Peeves isn't even in it

Grl yeah they only put half the books in the films .

Jo okay anything else the books did better

Grl and the quidditch world cup is hardly in it at all it's like one game and it's over and it's like full chapters in the book

Grl yeah that's the best bit and it's like a flash in the book er the film

Grl yeah Ludo Bagman's not even there at all

Grl I know right

Grl and the whole Dobby thing is missing

Grl yeah Neville gets the action it's so stupid

Grl that's why you should just read the book

Jo hh okay and anything else at all you can think of that the book did better

Grl and in the Order is it The Order of the Phoenix Hermione and the erm the Society for Elf er

Grl The Society for the Protection of Elfish Welfare yeah Order of the Phoenix

Grl yeah well that's left out of the film Hermione's not erm it's not in the film and it's such a good part of the book (several say yeah) .

Jo anything else . what else did the book do better

grl erm I didn't really like Dumbledore in the films

grl what I loved Dumbledore

grl yeah he was like so perfect well the first no they both were

grl i don't know why i just preferred him in the book

grl hmm

grl hhh sorry

Jo okay hhh anything else you thought the books did better . okay great and one final question then have any of you ever shared your Harry Potter books with anyone

Grl no I tell people to read them but I don't ever give them my books

Jo you don't share your books hh

Grl no way hh they're mine

Grl hh

Jo anyone else . anyone share their books . a few of you are shaking your heads . no right okay then well that's me done that's all my questions s unless you have anything to ask me we'll finish there