

Literature Circles Online: Self-Directed Peer Interactions in Text Comprehension

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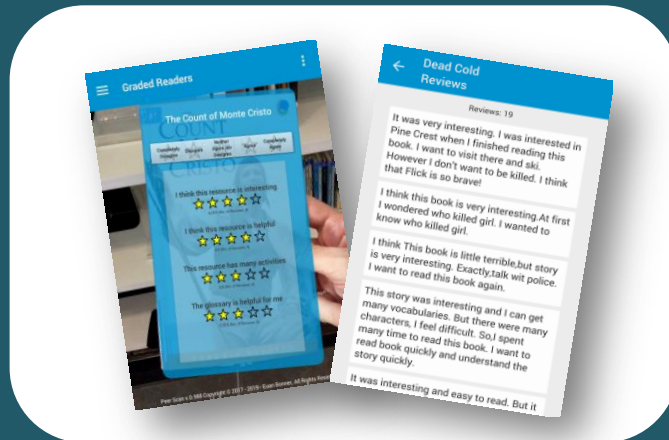
Reading Circles

- Makes reading an active and communal activity (Day, 2002).
- Learners are excited to discuss questions and listen to the opinion of others (Wilfong, 2009) and take ownership of their own learning.

Peer Scan

- Asynchronous communication within a closed network of near-peer users.
- Unmoderated and completely self-directed.

Self-directed opportunities to discuss literature via mobile app are seized by 76% of learners.



Discussion

- Developing L2 learners seem willing to engage in discussions with peers outside of a classroom and without extrinsic motivations.
- Most discussions involved enquiries about vocabulary difficulty and sharing personal interpretations of the story content.



Day, J. P. (2002). *Moving forward with literature circles: How to plan, manage, and evaluate literature circles that deepen understanding and foster a love of reading*. New York: Scholastic Professional Books.

Wilfong, L.G. (2009). Testmasters: bringing literature circles to textbook reading across the curriculum. *Journal of Adolescent and Adult Literacy*, 53(2), 164-170.