



Kelly Gallagher, a California educator and author, wrote a book titled, Reading Reasons: Motivational Mini-Lessons for Middle School and High School.

In this text he explains that, "It is our responsibility to make all of our students feel like readers, to make our students become readers, and to make our students remain readers long after they have left our schools." (Page 3) He continues, "To maximize our chance of success, we need to sell students on a wide range of reasons why they should read." (Page 4)

With this goal in mind, Gallagher and his students created a list of ten reading reasons. The book provides explanation on each. Below is a summary of his list.

## 10 Reading Reasons

### **1. Reading is rewarding.**

*It brings pleasure and knowledge.*

### **2. Reading builds a mature vocabulary.**

*The more you read, the more words you learn.*

### **3. Reading makes you a better writer.**

*We learn to write by reading. We must write like readers and read like writers.*

### **4. Reading is hard, and "hard" is necessary.**

*"We must keep our students from learning helplessness by emphasizing the necessity and beauty of hard work."  
(Page 23)*

### **5. Reading makes you smarter.**

*Research supports that students who read frequently, perform well academically. "The more you read, the smarter you'll become, and the smarter you become, the more likely you'll remain sharp in your golden years." (Page 27)*

### **6. Reading prepares you for the world of work.**

*Reading is the most basic of skills necessary for today's work force, especially in this 21st century.*

### **7. Reading well is financially rewarding.**

*Students "need to learn that their academic behavior today plays a major part in determining their economic future." (Page 31)*

### **8. Reading opens the door to future learning.**

*Strong reading is a prerequisite for all future tests. At the elementary level, strong reading skills pave the way to successful learning in middle school and beyond.*

### **9. Reading keeps students on the path to success.**

*Studies show that students who read well in elementary school have greater success in their futures.*

### **10. Reading develops a moral compass.**

*"Great writing matters, and by examining great works, teachers and students are provided rich opportunities to wrestle with universal ethical and moral dilemmas - the same dilemmas faced by humans centuries ago, and the same dilemmas our great-grandchildren will face." (Page 148)*

To learn more about these reasons and this author, visit his Website at: <http://kellygallagher.org/>