## **Best for ESL Book Talks (ESL 097)**

Every semester, I invite my ESL college students to choose a book to read. We have in-class and out of class exercises that support their learning. At the end of the semester, they give a short presentation on their opinion of the book. They say whether or not they think their classmates should read their book or not.

I initially started this assignment as a way to get my students to read for pleasure, but it's also helped them increase their vocabulary, their confidence in English and much more.

I've been doing this kind of assignment for a few years now, and I think there are other ESL instructors that could benefit from a list like this, as well as students researching and looking for a book that they can read that isn't too long or difficult.

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# The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe (Chronicles of Narnia, #1)

by C.S. Lewis

4.22 avg rating — 2,207,415 ratings

Vote For This Book score: 194, and 2 people voted

2



#### Number the Stars

by Lois Lowry (Goodreads Author)

4.15 avg rating — 465,436 ratings

Vote For This Book score: 190, and 2 people voted

3



## Front Desk (Front Desk, #1)

by Kelly Yang (Goodreads Author)

4.41 avg rating — 17,954 ratings

Vote For This Book score: 176, and 2 people voted



## Stargirl (Stargirl, #1)

by Jerry Spinelli

3.76 avg rating — 304,248 ratings

Vote For This Book score: 100, and 1 person voted

GAMES SUTAME

## The Hunger Games (The Hunger Games, #1)

by Suzanne Collins

4.32 avg rating — 6,592,999 ratings

Vote For This Book score: 99, and 1 person voted

6



### Shiloh (Shiloh, #1)

by Phyllis Reynolds Naylor

3.93 avg rating — 77,148 ratings

Vote For This Book score: 98, and 1 person voted

7



# The Lightning Thief (Percy Jackson and the Olympians, #1)

by Rick Riordan (Goodreads Author)

4.26 avg rating -2,082,831 ratings

Vote For This Book score: 97, and 1 person voted

8



## Charlie and the Chocolate Factory (Charlie Bucket,

<u>#1)</u>

by Roald Dahl

4.14 avg rating — 690,926 ratings

Vote For This Book score: 96, and 1 person voted

9



#### The Witches

by Roald Dahl

4.16 avg rating — 330,525 ratings

Vote For This Book score: 95, and 1 person voted



# Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone (Harry Potter, #1)

by J.K. Rowling

4.48 avg rating — 7,367,307 ratings

Vote For This Book score: 93, and 1 person voted

11



## **How to Train Your Dragon (How to Train Your Dragon,** #1)

by Cressida Cowell

3.88 avg rating — 39,231 ratings

Vote For This Book score: 92, and 1 person voted

12



#### Speak

by <u>Laurie Halse Anderson</u> (Goodreads Author)

4.02 avg rating — 494,476 ratings

Vote For This Book score: 91, and 1 person voted

13



#### The Turtle of Oman

by Naomi Shihab Nye

3.57 avg rating -1,545 ratings

Vote For This Book score: 89, and 1 person voted

14



## Harriet the Spy (Harriet the Spy #1)

by Louise Fitzhugh

3.95 avg rating — 96,290 ratings

Vote For This Book score: 88, and 1 person voted

15



#### The BFG

by Roald Dahl

4.21 avg rating — 391,352 ratings

Vote For This Book score: 87, and 1 person voted

16



#### James and the Giant Peach

by Roald Dahl

4.01 avg rating — 393,926 ratings

Vote For This Book score: 86, and 1 person voted





## **Gregor the Overlander (Underland Chronicles, #1)**

by Suzanne Collins

3.99 avg rating — 96,586 ratings

Vote For This Book score: 85, and 1 person voted

18



### The Giver (The Giver, #1)

by Lois Lowry (Goodreads Author)

4.13 avg rating — 1,855,778 ratings

Vote For This Book score: 84, and 1 person voted

19



#### **Black Beauty**

by Anna Sewell

3.96 avg rating — 245,584 ratings

Vote For This Book score: 83, and 1 person voted

20



#### Coraline

by Neil Gaiman (Goodreads Author)

4.06 avg rating — 507,716 ratings

Vote For This Book score: 82, and 1 person voted

21



## **Charlotte's Web**

by E.B. White

4.17 avg rating — 1,468,835 ratings

Vote For This Book score: 81, and 1 person voted

22



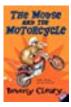
## The Castle in the Attic (The Castle in the Attic, #1)

by Elizabeth Winthrop (Goodreads Author)

3.96 avg rating — 17,682 ratings

Vote For This Book score: 80, and 1 person voted

23



### The Mouse and the Motorcycle (Ralph S. Mouse, #1)

by Beverly Cleary

3.93 avg rating — 78,688 ratings

Vote For This Book score: 79, and 1 person voted

24



## Insignificant Events in the Life of a Cactus

by Dusti Bowling (Goodreads Author)

4.32 avg rating — 15,169 ratings

Vote For This Book score: 78, and 1 person voted

25



### **The Porcupine of Truth**

by Bill Konigsberg (Goodreads Author)

3.90 avg rating -2,068 ratings

Vote For This Book score: 77, and 1 person voted

26



#### **Amal Unbound**

by Aisha Saeed (Goodreads Author)

4.20 avg rating — 12,108 ratings

Vote For This Book score: 75, and 1 person voted