

Interviewer: Okay, and you think that reading has helped your writing?

Interviewee: Yeah, because then I know exactly—this is such amazing writing. That doesn't mean that I can reproduce it. I'm actually reading always—one of the reasons why I hate writing is because I'll read it, and I'm like, "This isn't just like these masterpieces from all these books that I read." Then I get really upset about it, because just—it's just a stylistic problem.

It just doesn't flow the way I want it to. It's not perfect, and I think just part of what makes me so frustrated about it is because I read these great books that I'm never gonna match up to when I write. I just get really disheartened.

Interviewer: Okay. What great books are you reading?

Interviewee: Great books as in the class Great Books?

Interviewer: Yeah. No, you said just the reading you do in the summer helps with your writing.

Interviewee: I read some classics. I also read things for fun. Like this summer I read Hitchhikers of the Galaxy—the whole series. It's fun but also really—it also has a certain style to it, which is kinda really fun. Yeah, I had a reading list online, so I just kinda go through it over the summer. Go to the library, and I just read most of the time.

Interviewer: You feel like that reading has helped you grow as a writer?

Interviewee: Yeah, because there is certainly grammatical things or just vocabulary—you know what it means. You'd be able to put it into your writing. I don't always, because just like recognizing a word versus recalling a word and then using it is totally different. I read Lolita last summer. It's just like these—all these vocab words I had no idea of,

but at least I've been exposed to the words versus someone who hasn't read at all.  
Wouldn't even know what the words mean or have any ideas.