



## THE GENERATION DISTANCING THEMSELVES FROM BOOKS: CAUSES, CONSEQUENCES, AND PEDAGOGICAL SOLUTIONS

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**Annotation:** This article analyzes the decline of reading culture among modern youth, its main causes, consequences, and possible pedagogical solutions. Research shows that students who regularly read books develop higher cognitive and verbal skills, whereas those who do not engage with literary works tend to rely on fast, superficial information. Additionally, the role of family and school in fostering reading habits, the culture of literacy, and pedagogical approaches are emphasized. The article also provides practical recommendations to increase interest in reading among young people.

**Keywords:** reading culture, young generation, cognitive development, literacy culture, quality of education, pedagogical solutions, empathy, depth of knowledge, digital technologies

Books serve as a foundation for human cognition, verbal culture, and moral development. Every page read encourages the reader to think critically, organize their thoughts, and gain a broader understanding of the world. At the same time, today's youth are accustomed to receiving information in a fast and simplified format, which limits their ability to analyze deeply and think logically. Short videos, headline-based texts on social media, and rapid information tools are replacing books, gradually decreasing interest in reading. This trend poses not only a challenge for education but also a serious risk for the future of society.



Modern students are used to quick and easy access to information, yet this habit prevents them from analyzing ideas deeply and drawing logical conclusions. Reading a book requires patience and concentration, as each page encourages reflective thinking. During the reading process, the brain's language comprehension and analytical centers are activated, further developing cognitive and logical skills. In addition, regular reading enhances vocabulary, improves verbal expression, and enables faster comprehension of complex concepts.

The insufficient involvement of family and school also exacerbates the problem of declining reading habits. If parents do not value books or do not engage in reading themselves, children are unlikely to consider books as an integral part of life. Therefore, the personal example of teachers and parents serves as a powerful motivation for young people, shaping their interest in reading and fostering positive attitudes toward it.

In the educational process, books are often assigned as mandatory tasks, which can create negative attitudes toward reading. Many students rely on summaries found online rather than engaging in deep reading. As a result, students do not fully understand the material, cannot express their thoughts coherently, and their cognitive development slows down.

For example: In a secondary school, students were assigned to read a literary work. Those who read the book in its physical form could clearly explain the sequence of events and cause-effect relationships. Students who read the same text electronically and quickly could only summarize the general content. This observation clearly demonstrates the difference in comprehension between traditional book reading and rapid digital reading.

The consequences of not reading are broad and negatively affect personal cognition and social awareness.

Slower cognitive and verbal development, insufficient text-handling skills, inability to master subjects deeply, and superficial social interactions are among the most evident outcomes. Additionally, literary works teach patience, empathy, and



critical life reflection. Students who grow up without books often tend toward shallow thinking.

Pedagogical strategies are essential for promoting reading habits. Presenting books not as an obligation but as a need or personal interest, providing motivation through the personal example of teachers and parents, organizing family reading evenings, purposeful use of electronic and audio books, and encouraging discussion, project work, and creative activities based on books are effective ways to restore reading interest among youth.

In conclusion, the issue of a generation distancing itself from books is not merely a cultural or educational concern but also a serious threat to the intellectual and moral future of society. Through appropriate pedagogical approaches and active cooperation between parents and schools, young people can be guided back to books. Reading develops cognitive abilities, encourages reflective thinking, and shapes character.

Therefore, promoting a reading culture is one of the most critical values for the future of society.

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