Welcome to week five. This week, we're looking at the reading part of the IELTS test. You'll remember that, like the writing part of the test, there are different questions for the academic and the general IELTS modules. We're going to look at both of those this week. So whatever your interest, there will be useful advice here for you. First, though, let's talk about reading in English in general. What sorts of things cause problems when you're reading in English? Let's see what our students said.

I guess the most difficult books for me are the books that were published long ago. For example, I tried to read The Great Gatsby. It's a normal book. It's normal English there, but some words are old, and I had to have a dictionary to look up those words.

I think the most difficult thing is to read some complex authors. For example, I was reading 1984 by George Orwell, and it was really difficult for me to read some complex constructions. Yeah. Difficult about reading.

Well, it's quite easy to read the small text in exams or in comics, but when I try to read books-- like, once in school, I tried to read The Catcher in the Rye. And I understood it. I spent too much time on each page, and it was hard to understand some sentences.

I don't know why. Because, well, my vocabulary is not really bad. I knew, like, a lot of words from there, but it was hard to understand the whole plot. I don't know. I can't explain it. I have to read only special literature according for my subject. And it is special terms about technical skills and about constructing sewing garments. So in this way, I'm fine. But if it's high level English, of course, it's not enough of a-- I don't think I have enough vocabulary to understand everything. I try to read some books sometimes. Sometimes it's fine. Sometimes I can't understand what's written.

I think when I'm reading something that I'm not interested in-- for example, like, science-- science articles or some difficult test on reading, like, IELTS, reading, I get lost from the first sentence-- when I look at the first topic sentence because I'm not interested in, and I never thought about it. Yeah. Well, mostly, vocabulary can be difficult. But if you have a dictionary, it's OK. So difficulties with vocabulary or with particular kinds of text, some of the things that people find difficult about reading. How about you? Share your thoughts in the comments on this page.