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My Mechanics of Reading

Everyone reads different and interprets everything differently. If someone were to describe what my reading was like, they could say my reading is to a mechanic fixing a car. There is six mechanical words that describe my reading and those would be prognosis, check over, problem solving, diagnostics, maintaining, and compression.

In the Webster Dictionary defines prognosis as, "judgments as what is going to happen". When I am reading I need to have a judgments on what I am reading about. In past English classes I have not had issues judging stories, but I am a very judgmental person. This connects with mechanics because a mechanic judges what a problem could be causing a problem, or what is causing the problem. For example when we read, "*The Hobbit*" (By Tolkien) I had to make judgments on what I believed was going to happen this is just like when my truck shakes when I am driving and I need to make a judgment before I begin opening and taking it apart,

Mechanics do a thing called check over, a check over is when they check over everything. Well before I read I check over three places, the vocabulary, the side notes, and about the author to get more of an idea I am going to read, when I read "*Romeo and Juliet*" (by Shakespeare) last year I did this because I knew the language they used then would be harder to understand.. All these places will help me get a better understanding of what I am about to read. When my truck was shaking I had a friend, who is a mechanic, come over and take a look at all the possible issues, he named off many possibilities like the moving components or a wheel being out of balance.

Problem solving is a very important thing for a reader to understand and it is just as important for a mechanic to be able to do. You may wonder how problem solving connects with reading but it does in several ways. Three ways would be making connections, examine the issue the author is writing about, and then lastly you must compared how the issue was resolved. When I read "*Of Mice and Men*" (by John Steinbeck) I had to make a connection with the era he was writing in so I could examine the problem with better compression.. This is just as when I am working on trucks and I need a quick but efficient fix to something I need to comprehend and examine the issue..

An easy way to explain diagnostics to someone would be learning new things constantly. As a young reader I do not know anything, nor am I going to anytime so when I go to read a book or a play I need to do research into the area so I can compared it better. When we read, "*Romeo and Juliet*" (by Shakespeare) I had to read into the Elizabethan area so I can see what view points the people were coming from. This helped my reading and understanding a lot. This is very important as important as a engine is to a truck, me not doing this is like having myself fix a engine, I do not know much about them.

But maintaining is also important to my reading. As a reader I must keep up with my reading so I do not fall behind, kind of like a mechanic keeps up with changing his oil when its low so it does not mess up his car or the car he or she is working on. I remember in fourth grade I was below the reading average and was maintaing a poor grade and my

teacher had me read my answer to a question about the story we read, my answer was completely wrong.

Lastly is I compress everything I read together, which makes it harder for me to understand sometimes. When I read I sometimes read very quickly, which makes my understanding go down and makes me not remember what I read. I know when we read "*The Custodian*" this year I compressed everything together so I did not completely understand what I read until after we did the seminars.

As a reader a broad term to describe me would be mechanic but the deeper you go into it you can prove it. I know I can improve my reading more and more as a mechanic fixes cars so they can become better.