

ENGAGING WITH THE AUTHORS EXERCISES



UNIVERSITEIT VAN PRETORIA
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unit for academic literacy
eenheid vir akademiese geletterdheid

In the following sentences, circle the facts and underline the opinions:

1. Facebook has just paid \$19 billion for WhatsApp, a smartphone messaging service that charges its 450 million users \$1 a year to send messages back and forth. WhatsApp is a great service that is much better than normal text messaging. Yet, even if it continues to grow at the current rate, it is doubtful whether it will be worth the 19 billion dollars.
2. Low school standards and university fees that are too high for the poor majority explain why South Africa has so low a rate of university attendance.
3. There has been a higher pass rate for matrics in 2013, which shows that the education system is improving.
4. Soccer has two opposing teams. The idea of sides, pitched against each other as in soccer, helped the British soldier to make sense of the war.
5. *Literature in the Marketplace: Nineteenth-Century British Publishing and Reading Practices*, is a collection of essays on the different forms of literature available during the nineteenth century and the market forces that shaped them. In a well-organised introduction Jordan and Patten orientates the reader in the developments within the field that had taken place over the past few decades, highlighting areas that are still fertile for study, while deploring a lack of a comprehensive framework for the field.

Paraphrase the following quotes:

“Recently, the U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon appealed to the international community to send 3,000 troops and police to Central African Republic to help fight the increasing sectarian violence until a U.N. peacekeeping force can be established.”

“More than half of my students have not set foot in the university’s library.”

“During WWI, games were only played when the British soldiers were pulled back from the trenches for a short rest period. On these periods they were generally kept busy with drills, inspections and a daily routine, but in the time off, usually towards the end of the day, the men loved to play soccer.”

“As an interesting read and a good foundation for beginners, the book does not fail to impress; it is both easy to read and well focused. Though it is important to note that it does not serve to give the reader an extremely broad view of the nineteenth century in terms of scope of writers and period, one can do much worse in a choice for a book on book history in the nineteenth century, and the reader is definitely left with more food for thought after reading it.”
