

I Love the Look of Words

by Maya Angelou

**Popcorn leaps, popping from the floor
of a hot black skillet
and into my mouth.**

**Black words leap,
snapping from the white
page. Rushing into my eye. Sliding
into my brain which gobbles them
the way my tongue and teeth
chomp the buttered popcorn.**



**When I have stopped reading,
ideas from the words stay stuck
in my mind, like the sweet
smell of butter perfuming my
fingers long after the popcorn is finished.**

**I love the book and the look of words
the weight of ideas that popped into my mind
I love the tracks
of new thinking in my mind.**

What does reading mean to you? How does it affect or influence your life? What do you see as the positives of the written word? What are the negatives to you? What have you experienced because of reading? Collect your thoughts about reading and write a paragraph sharing your views. Please use specific examples and include a book title in your response.