

Speedy Gal

by Sandy Widmer

QUICK...you need to hurry up, if you want to keep up with Evelyn Levson. She’s reading as fast as the wind, and she wants to take you along with her.

Since 1992, Evelyn has taught over 5,000 people to speed-read. She finds her work very rewarding because she knows that she changes people’s lives. She helps them succeed at school, in business, and in their personal lives. When people can read faster and understand and retain more of what they read, they will read more, and therefore learn more and have greater success in all they do.

Looking for a way to earn some extra money while staying home with her young children, Evelyn happened upon a speed-reading course that changed her life. Reading came alive for her. She began to understand and retain far more of what she was reading. She found herself reading about 40 times as much as she had before, and her first thought was:

“I wish I had known this when I was in elementary and high school. I needed to know this when I was in university. People need to know this!”

So, Evelyn created a course based on what she had learned at that first speed-reading course and taught the course to her son’s Grade 5 class. She was delighted when their reading speed more than tripled, and many students had increased comprehension scores.

She was then invited to teach at other schools, colleges, and businesses. Eventually, she held classes at the university several times a year, inviting people of all ages (Grade 5 level reading and up) to attend. Speed-reading is Evelyn’s passion, and she takes every speed-reading course that comes to town (they are rare). She

has studied over 50 speed-reading textbooks and courses, and she is constantly updating and improving her course.

Through her Effective Speed-Reading business, she teaches a six-hour speed-reading course, guaranteed to double your reading speed. The course also covers speed-reading-related skills such as scanning and skimming, study skills, and memory tools. Evelyn teaches her classes mainly in Calgary to Grades 5 to 12 students, university and college students, business people, homemakers, professionals, seniors, etc. Students and business people attend her classes at the university, while she also teaches on-site at businesses such as Devon Canada.

Though she states this learning is pretty much gender equal, life isn’t; and the business world certainly isn’t gender equal. So, she believes that if women have the advantage of being able to read faster and better, with improved comprehension, it will give them an advantage in the business world.

With Kathleen Mailer’s encouragement, Evelyn recently created a Home Study Kit version of her course. It is a videotaped version of her teaching her class in the classroom. This will be a great option for those who cannot make her class dates, or for those who live out of town or live in other (English-speaking) countries. She says that it will be suitable for home, classrooms, businesses, and groups. Evelyn will be available to coach via email for those who purchase the Home Study Kit.

With anticipated international sales of the Home Study Kit, she expects to be doing more coaching via email and holding fewer classes. This will give her more time to spend with her family and husband when he retires, and pursue her many favourite activities—along with her speedy reading!

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