

## Top Ten Educational Benefits of Audiobook Listening

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**Look around.** Teens everywhere seem to have headphones on or in their ears. This fact, together with studies showing a positive correlation between listening to audiobooks and reading improvement, is leading teachers and librarians to use audiobooks in their classrooms and libraries. With this increase in audiobook usage, I reviewed the literature (various articles, presentations, and conversations) to compile a list of the reasons why teen listening is important, beyond just the enjoyment factor. Here is that list:

10. Removes any stigma of lower reading levels or "uncool" genres
9. Increases vocabulary skills
8. Improves speaking and writing skills
7. Introduces storytelling, an important tradition in human history
6. Engages imagination by allowing students to create mental images of the story
5. Improves listening skills — essential in this multimedia world
4. Makes mundane yet necessary tasks (exercising, dishwashing, room cleaning) more tolerable
3. Keeps students informed of popular books or latest releases from favorite authors
2. Improves ability to multi-task and complete assignments simultaneously
1. Listening is an important step for becoming a life-long reader