



The 5th Annual Great Reading Challenge!

Rules and Goals of 2026 Great Reading Challenge (GRC)

1. The reading challenge is open to adults 18+.
2. Please sign up at the circulation desk or via the form on the GRC page of our website www.harlanlibrary.org
3. Use the log to track your reading for the year.
4. Pick your books based on the categories or find the categories that fit the books you want to read. Both ways will work. (See *HCL – 2026 GRC Category List & Book Log*)
5. Read anything and everything! Don't be limited by physical books or only those you can find in the adult fiction section. You can listen to books on audio, read eBooks, graphic novels, non-fiction, young adult, or even junior titles. Just make sure they are appropriately long, usually 100+ pages. Please use your best judgement.
6. You get to set your own goals and track your own books for the GRC. At the end of the year, you will submit the total number of books you read for 2026. *Don't worry about turning in your log. Just email the number of books you read to Dena (email address is below).*
7. Reading Goal Levels:

Bronze Level:	Read 18-29 Books
Silver Level:	Read 30-49 Books
Gold Level:	Read 50-79 Books
Platinum Level:	Read 80-99 Books
Diamond Level:	Read 100+ Books

The deadline to turn in the number of books you have read for the year is Wednesday, December 30th, 2026.

Reading goal prizes will be awarded in January of 2027. Check out our website for updates and the latest Reading Roulette category. If you have any additional questions, contact Dena at djacobsen@harlanlibrary.org.

Frequently Asked Questions about the GRC:

1. **Do I have to read a book from every category/letter in the book log?**

You can if you wish, but you do not have to. You can set your own reading goals based on the book log.

2. **Do the books have to be fiction or non-fiction?**

Many of the categories are specific and obviously one or the other. But many more categories can be whatever book you find that fits (for example, these books can be fiction or non-fiction: a book with a green cover, read a book that features a hobby you enjoy, or read a book that inspires joy.)

3. **Do the books I read have to be checked out from the Harlan Community Library?**

No, they do not, although we always enjoy seeing you at the library, perusing our collections and checking out our wonderful books.

4. **Can I listen to an audiobook/read an eBook, etc. for the GRC?**

Definitely! We encourage you to read in whatever way you prefer or most enjoy.

5. **How many books do I have to read to win the Great Reading Challenge?**

The GRC is a personal goal-oriented reading challenge, but to put a number on it – you should read at least 18 books by the end of 2026 to finish or “win” the GRC.

6. **Do I have to be 18 years or older to participate in the GRC?**

Yes, officially. However, if you are under 18 and inspired to read a bunch of different categories in the GRC, we will always encourage you to read! Feel free to follow along unofficially. Just be aware that you will not be eligible to win any prizes.

7. **Can I suggest a category for next year’s Great Reading Challenge?**

We’d be glad to take suggestions! Please send them to djacobsen@harlanlibrary.org.