

## Core Skills Analysis

### Literacy

- Developed reading comprehension skills through sequential art and text integration unique to manga.
- Enhanced understanding of cultural narrative structures, especially those characteristic of Japanese storytelling.
- Improved ability to infer meaning from visual cues as well as dialogue, fostering multimodal literacy.
- Practiced sustained attention and processing speed by reading an entire manga chapter or volume online.

### Technology

- Gained proficiency in navigating digital platforms for accessing content, enhancing digital literacy.
- Learned to optimize screen reading strategies to maintain focus and reduce eye strain during extended online sessions.
- Understood the importance of legal and ethical considerations when reading copyrighted material online.
- Explored interactive features typical of manga platforms, such as zoom functions, online forums, or bookmarking.

### Tips

To deepen understanding and engagement from reading manga online, encourage your 14-year-old to compare manga with traditional Western comics or graphic novels, analyzing differences in art style, narrative pacing, and cultural themes. Consider an art project where they create their own manga-style story, practicing both storytelling and illustration skills. Discuss the cultural origins of manga, expanding into Japanese history and contemporary society to provide context. Additionally, exploring digital citizenship by discussing the ethics of online content consumption, including copyright and piracy issues, can promote responsible media use.

### Book Recommendations

- [Manga in Theory and Practice: The Craft of Creating Manga](#) by Hirohiko Araki: An insightful book by a master mangaka explaining storytelling and artistic techniques unique to manga.
- [Understanding Comics: The Invisible Art](#) by Scott McCloud: A comprehensive exploration of comic art and narrative that helps readers appreciate sequential storytelling deeply.
- [Yotsuba&! Vol. 1](#) by Kiyohiko Azuma: A lighthearted manga following the curious adventures of a young girl, offering engaging stories and relatable humor.

### Learning Standards

- ELA-Literacy.RL.8.7 - Evaluate the advantages and disadvantages of using different mediums (e.g., print or digital) to analyze a text.
- ELA-Literacy.RL.9-10.2 - Determine a theme or central idea of a text and analyze in detail its development.
- ELA-Literacy.RL.7.7 - Compare and contrast a written story, drama, or poem to its audio, filmed, staged, or multimedia version.
- ISTE Standards for Students 1.6 - Creative Communicator: Students communicate clearly and express themselves creatively for a variety of purposes using the platforms, tools, styles, formats and digital media appropriate to their goals.

### **Try This Next**

- Create a worksheet comparing manga panel layout and dialogue bubbles to those in Western graphic novels.
- Write a short manga script or storyboard inspired by your favorite manga character or theme.

### **Growth Beyond Academics**

Reading manga online can foster a sense of curiosity and independence as the student explores new cultural content independently. It can also build confidence as they interpret complex visual and textual information, while navigating digital resources enhances problem-solving and focus skills.