Peter: Now, Anne, I’d like you to tell me something about what you read.
Anne: Well, first of all, I’d better say that I don’t read all that much.
Peter: Could you tell me why, please?
Anne: Well, I haven’t much time because of my work, what with travelling and so on, then my folks aren’t great readers, so I suppose that has influenced me as well.
Peter: If you have the time, what kind of book do you enjoy reading?
Anne: I’m not keen on novels. That’s because, when I was at school, I had to study Dickens and Jane Austen and people like that. The teachers said it was good for us to read the classics. But I think that put me off. If you gave me something like that to read today, I don’t think I could.
Peter: What do you like then?
Anne: Light reading. I’m quite partial to a love story or a crime thriller, like a Raymond Chandler or an Agatha Christie. Those are my favourites, I suppose.
Peter: What about newspapers? Magazines?
Anne: I don’t buy a daily, if that’s what you mean, but the other girls in the office do, so I usually have a quick look through theirs. As far as magazines are concerned, I take a couple a week, mainly for the serials and the bits on fashion and beauty.
Peter: Thank you, Anne. You’ve been most helpful.
Anne: I haven’t given you a lot of information, have I? Still, I hope it’ll be of some use!
Essay

*Moll Flanders*: a case history of repentance or hypocrisy?