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## Round Robin

Dorothy E. Smith

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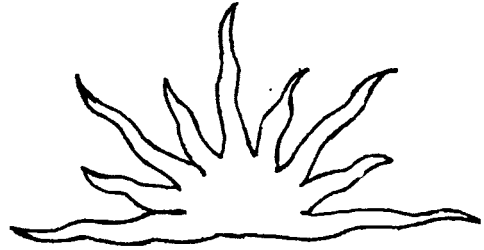
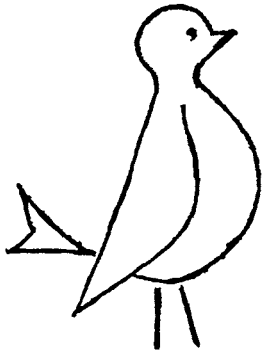
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## ROUND ROBIN

*Dorothy E. Smith, Editor*

Dear Editor:

As you know, Kalamazoo Valley Community College is in its first year of operation, and the year is yet young. Coming up this summer are two academic sessions. One, the Summer Session (June 16-July 25), is traditional in its course offerings; the other, a post summer session (August 4-August 22) offers courses primarily designed to improve one's chances of success in college.

During the Summer Session, the Humanities Division is offering English 250 (Reading Improvement—2 credit hours). This course presents an opportunity to learn techniques to improve reading ability with emphasis on replacing obstructive with effective habits. Emphasis will be put upon purposeful reading rate, vocabulary, comprehension, and study methods to make average readers versatile readers.

In addition to the above course, an additional reading course, Developmental Reading (English 098), will be offered during the post summer session. This course is designed for those students whose past performances and test scores indicate a need for intensive training in the fundamentals of reading. Developmental Reading is not offered for college credit.

Any high school graduate or any person beyond the age of compulsory school attendance who gives evidence of maturity and ability to profit from these courses may be admitted entry into them.

For further information please contact Kalamazoo Valley Community College or yours truly,

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Most colleges and universities offer programs similar to the one described above. The vital need for them is vividly expressed by the following excerpts, written by students in an Adult Reading class at Western Michigan University this spring.

“I need to increase my general reading abilities so that I can face the outside world as a well-rounded student — which implies a confident reader.”

A student from Traverse City, Michigan

“I am having problems with reading assignments due to the fact of my being a foreign student from a different part of the world.”

A student from Saudi Arabia

“I retain very little of what I think I read very carefully.”

A student from Milford, Michigan

“I’ve never had to do much reading before in school.”

A student from Plymouth, Michigan

“It seems to take me forever to read my assignments.”

A student from Spring Lake, Michigan

“A graduate student recommended this course. She said that if I put forth the effort I could gain skills that would help me all my life.”

A student from Chicago, Illinois

“There is competition in all my classes and the only way to stay on top is to read more and with greater comprehension.”

A student from Jackson, Michigan

“I’m a very poor reader and I don’t enjoy reading. I want to learn to like reading.”

A student from Detroit, Michigan

“I would like to learn how to formulate my *own* ideas, theories, and opinions from what I read and not always believe the author’s point of view. This is what I’ve been doing for years and it’s about time I changed my habits if I’m going to improve myself as a college student.”

A student from Birmingham, Michigan