Reading Aloud in Britain Today (RABiT), an introduction
Sam Duncan, Jan. 18

Reading Aloud in Britain Today (RABiT) is a two-year research project funded by the Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC) to find out whether, what and how people read aloud in Britain today is any different than in the past. We are trying to create a record and analysis of contemporary adult reading aloud practices in Britain. We want to create a record of adult reading aloud practices in order to create a larger, richer picture of reading today. Picture this: imagine a large fabric map of Britain with kilometres of threads and knots encoded with the very different practices in the corners of the country. These threads will be made of materials such as personal reading, social reading, reading aloud for travel, for work, for fun, for the Mass Observation directive, writing about their own current reading, and so on. The aim of this project is not to advocate for particular forms of reading or writing, but rather to understand the reading practices of people as they read aloud in different contexts. We will also hold four regional community events across Britain, inviting anyone interested to join us in year two of the project in the academic symposium or a regional gathering. If you would like to take part in the interviews or recordings, or would like to hear more about our project, please email Sam Duncan at sduncan@ucl.ac.uk

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Summary: The project aims to understand contemporary adult reading aloud practices in Britain. It seeks to record and analyze these practices, providing a larger, richer picture of reading today. The project will involve interviews and recordings, as well as regional community events across Britain.