

Writing a book review

Here is a guide for how to write a book review. You don't need to include everything in your book review but you can use these tips for support while writing.

-The title of the book

-Name of the author

-A short resumé

This part should only be a small part of your book review. Remember to keep it short and don't reveal the end.

-Describe the main characters and the some of the most important characters.

Also consider:

- Why do you think the main character act the way he/she does?
- What are the main characters most important qualities (both inner qualities and external)
- Do the characters develop in any way? How?
- Are there any conflicts between characters?
- Are the characters realistic?

-When and where does the story take place?

- How is the setting portrayed?
- Why does the author describe the setting in the way she/he does? Guess and reflect.

-How do you experience the language?

- Was the language easy or hard?
- How did you feel about reading in English?

-From whose perspective do you read the novel?

- Is it a story teller? If so, who is he/she?
- Do we read the story from a third person singular perspective (he/she) or is the book written in I –form?

-What genre does the book belong to?

What in the book makes it typical for the genre it belongs to? The genre could be: detective story, love story, fantasy, biography etc.

-What is the message of the book?

- Does the book have any message?
- What message do you think the author wants to convey?
- Is the message still of interest today?

-How do you experience the language?

- Was the language easy or hard?
- How did you feel about reading in English?

-What do you think of the book?

- Do you like the book? Why/why not?
- What did you think of the ending? Were you surprised, sad, angry, disappointed etc.?
- Is it hard to put the book aside or do you have to force yourself to read?
- Would you recommend the book to anyone? If so, to who?

Think about:

Level 1

You use a coherent, structured and to some extent varied language. You also try to use a correct language. You show that you have understood the plot and the content of the novel. You also try to write your own opinions about the book.

Level 2

You write with coherence, nuance and variation. You also use a nearly correct language. You show that you have understood the plot and the content of the novel. You also comment the theme, characters and setting of the novel and try to convey the message of the novel.

Level 3

You write with coherence, clarity, precision and variation. You use a correct language. You show that you have understood the plot and the content of the novel. You also reflect and analyse the theme, characters and setting of the novel. You also try to convey the message of the novel and discuss if the message is still of interest today.