

Pip's Perfect Review

Learning objective: To identify the key features of a book review and retrieve information from a text.

Read the passage carefully and answer the questions that follow. Use full sentences in your answers.

Pip the caterpillar loves reading more than anything else in the garden. Recently, he decided to write his very first book review for the 'Leafy Library Gazette'. He chose a story called 'The Brave Snail's Journey'.

In his review, Pip started by explaining the plot, which followed a tiny snail travelling across a giant vegetable patch. Pip praised the author for the vivid descriptions of the dew-covered lettuce and the scary shadows of the garden fence. However, he felt the ending was a bit too rushed and wanted to know more about the snail's new friends.

Pip gave the book four out of five stars. He wrote that he would highly recommend the story to anyone who enjoys tales of courage and adventure. He spent an hour carefully polishing his sentences to make sure his opinion was clear. Once he finished, he felt a surge of pride. He realised that reviewing books wasn't just about saying if a story was good or bad, but about explaining why it made him feel a certain way.

Word bank: recommend · critique · plot · characterisation · opinion

1. What is the name of the newspaper Pip wrote his review for? (1 mark)

2. How many stars did Pip give 'The Brave Snail's Journey'? (1 mark)

3. Why did Pip feel the book wasn't completely perfect? (2 marks)

4. How do we know that Pip cares about the quality of his writing? (2 marks)

5. Do you think Pip is a fair reviewer? Explain your answer using evidence from the text. (3 marks)

Draw: Draw a picture of Pip the caterpillar sitting at his desk, writing his review for the Leafy Library Gazette.



Extension challenge: Imagine you are the author of 'The Brave Snail's Journey'. Write a short letter to Pip thanking him for his review and explaining how you might improve the ending.