

Year 4 English Assessment: Writing a Book Review

Learning objective: To demonstrate understanding of the purpose, structure, and features of a book review, and to apply these skills in writing.

Read the questions carefully. Answer in full sentences where possible. Make sure your writing is clear and your spelling is correct.

Pip the caterpillar has just finished reading a book called 'The Secret of the Silver Leaf'. In his review, Pip writes: 'I absolutely loved this story! The setting was a magical forest with glowing trees, which made me feel like I was really there. My favourite character was Squeak the Mouse because he was brave. However, the ending felt a bit rushed. I give this book 4 out of 5 stars. I recommend it to anyone who loves mystery stories.'

Word bank: recommend · plot · character · setting · opinion · genre · summary

1. What is the main purpose of writing a book review? (2 marks)

2. Looking at Pip's review, identify one piece of evidence where Pip shares an opinion rather than a fact. (2 marks)

3. Which part of the review tells the reader who the book is suitable for? (2 marks)

4. Explain what Pip means when he says the ending 'felt a bit rushed'. (3 marks)

5. List three key features that should be included in a professional book review (e.g. a star rating). (3 marks)

6. Why is it important to include a brief summary of the plot without giving away the ending? (3 marks)

7. Writing Task: Choose a book you have read recently. Write a short review including: the title, a brief summary of the plot, your favourite character, and a reason why you would or would not recommend it to a friend. (10 marks)

Draw: Draw a new front cover for 'The Secret of the Silver Leaf' based on Pip's description of the setting.



Extension challenge: Total: /25