

Mastering the Art of the Book Review

Learning objective: To understand the structure and purpose of a book review, using persuasive and descriptive language suitable for Year 4.

Read each flashcard carefully. The front provides a term or task, and the back provides the definition or guidance. Use these to help Pip the bookworm write a brilliant review!

What is the purpose of a book review?

To inform others about a book and share your personal opinion to help them decide if they would like to read it too.

Why should you avoid 'spoilers' in your plot summary?

A spoiler reveals the ending or a major twist, which ruins the surprise and suspense for a new reader.

What is meant by the term 'Genre'?

The category or style of a book, such as mystery, historical fiction, adventure, or non-fiction.

How can you describe a character's development?

By explaining how the character changes, learns, or grows throughout the events of the story.

What does a 'Recommendation' section include?

A statement about who would enjoy the book the most, such as 'Fans of space adventures will love this,' or 'Great for readers who like mysteries.'

Why is it important to use 'Adjectives' in a review?

Adjectives help you provide a vivid description of the setting and characters, making your review more engaging and descriptive.

What is the difference between a 'Fact' and an 'Opinion'?

A fact is something that can be proven true, like the title or author. An opinion is your personal feeling, like saying a book was 'captivating' or 'thrilling.'

Explain why you should justify your opinion.

Simply saying 'I liked it' is not enough. You must explain why, such as 'I enjoyed the book because the plot was full of unexpected twists.'

What is 'Vocabulary' in the context of a review?

Selecting ambitious and precise words to express your thoughts clearly, rather than using simple words like 'good' or 'nice.'

What is a 'Hook' in a book review?

An opening sentence designed to grab the reader's attention immediately, such as a rhetorical question or a mysterious statement about the plot.

Compare and contrast 'Summary' and 'Opinion'.

A summary tells the reader what happens in the book, whereas an opinion tells the reader how you felt about the story and why.

Justify your answer: Why might a reviewer use a star-rating system?

It provides a quick, visual way for readers to see at a glance how highly the reviewer recommends the book.