

World Book Day: The Character Explorer's Review

Learning objective: To write a sophisticated book review that explores character motivations, plot structure, and personal response, using rich vocabulary.

Celebrate World Book Day by reflecting on a story that captured your imagination. Use this template to analyse your chosen book. Focus on using descriptive adjectives and justifying your opinions with evidence from the text. Think like Max the monkey—look for the patterns in how the author builds the story!

Word bank: protagonist · climax · captivating · perspective · dilemma · resilience · narrative · atmosphere · resolution

1. Book Title and Protagonist: State the title of the book and describe the main character. Why do you think the author chose this specific character to lead the story? (2 marks)

2. The Central Dilemma: Summarise the main problem the character faces. Justify your answer by explaining why this challenge is significant to the plot. (3 marks)

3. Character Development: Compare and contrast how the character feels at the beginning of the story versus the end. What events caused them to change? (3 marks)

4. Author's Craft: Explain why the author's choice of language (such as metaphors or vivid descriptions) makes the setting or atmosphere feel real to the reader. (3 marks)

5. Personal Reflection: If you were the protagonist, what might happen if you made a different decision during the climax of the story? (3 marks)

6. Critical Evaluation: Evaluate the book's effectiveness. Would you recommend this story to a friend? Justify your recommendation using specific examples from the book. (4 marks)

Extension challenge: Imagine you are the author of this book. Write a short paragraph (5-8 lines) detailing a 'missing chapter' where the protagonist discovers a hidden secret about their world. Use at least three words from the word bank in your writing.