

Writing a Brilliant Book Review with Pip

Learning objective: To write a compelling book review by summarising a plot, expressing personal opinions, and using persuasive language.

Read the book review written by Pip the caterpillar. Then, answer the questions below to explore how to write your own review for others.

I have just finished reading 'The Moonlit Forest' by an unknown author, and I simply must share my thoughts! The story follows a young fox who discovers a secret pathway leading to a garden where the flowers glow in the dark. My favourite part was when the fox had to solve a riddle to open the silver gate. The descriptive language was truly captivating; I felt like I was standing right there in the garden smelling the sweet nectar. While the middle of the book was a little slow, the ending was full of excitement and wonder. I would highly recommend this book to any reader who enjoys mysteries and nature. It is a wonderful addition to any bookshelf and a real treat for the imagination.

Word bank: captivating · plot · recommend · opinion · persuasive · character · summary

1. Identify the two main elements of a book review that Pip included in this text. (2 marks)

2. How does Pip feel about the ending of the story? Use evidence from the text to support your answer. (2 marks)

3. Why does Pip describe the language as 'captivating'? Explain what this tells us about the author's writing style. (2 marks)

4. If you were to buy this book for a friend, Pip suggests it is for people who enjoy 'mysteries and nature'. Who would you recommend a book to, and what genre would it be? (2 marks)

5. Find and copy one word from the text that Pip uses to persuade the reader to pick up the book. (1 mark)

Draw: Draw a scene from a book you have recently enjoyed. Below your drawing, write a one-sentence 'hook' that would make someone else want to read that book.



Extension challenge: Choose your favourite book. Write a short paragraph (4-6 sentences) for a review. You must include a brief summary of the plot and one reason why you would recommend it, using at least two words from the word bank.