

A Masterclass in Reviewing: Pip's Literary Corner

Learning objective: To identify the features of a book review and evaluate the author's purpose and opinion.

Read the text below carefully, then answer the questions that follow in full sentences.

Pip the caterpillar recently finished reading 'The Starlight Navigator', a thrilling adventure about a lost explorer. In his review, Pip explains that the story follows a young girl named Elara who must sail across the Silver Sea using only the constellations to guide her. Pip notes that the author's use of descriptive language creates a vivid atmosphere, making the reader feel the cold spray of the ocean waves. While Pip admits that the middle chapters move a little slowly, he believes the suspenseful climax makes up for it. He concludes by giving the book four out of five stars, suggesting it is a perfect read for anyone who enjoys mystery and exploration. Pip writes, 'The plot twists kept me guessing until the final page, and I would highly recommend this to my fellow bookworms.' By sharing his thoughts, Pip hopes to inspire others to pick up a book and get lost in a new world, proving that a well-written review is a fantastic way to celebrate great storytelling.

Word bank: persuasive · critique · recommendation · protagonist · summary · subjective

1. According to the text, what is the name of the main character in 'The Starlight Navigator'? (1 mark)

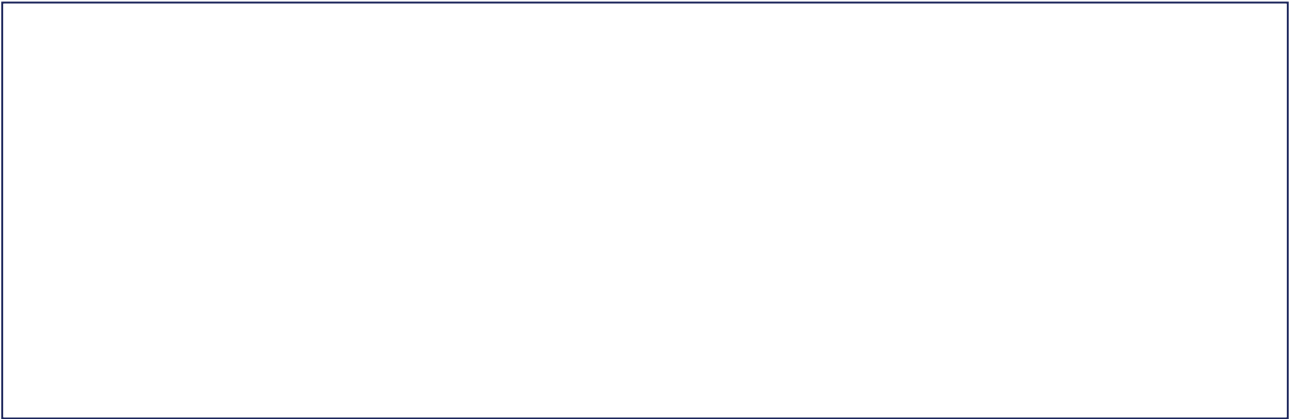
2. How many stars did Pip award the book, and what did he think about the middle chapters? (2 marks)

3. Why does Pip describe the author's language as 'vivid'? (2 marks)

4. What does the passage suggest about Pip's personality as a reader? (2 marks)

5. Do you agree with Pip that a review is a 'fantastic way to celebrate great storytelling'? Explain your reasoning. (3 marks)

Draw: Draw a scene from 'The Starlight Navigator' as if you were illustrating the book Pip reviewed, focusing on the Silver Sea and the constellations.



Extension challenge: Write a short paragraph (50 words) reviewing your favourite book, ensuring you include a brief summary, a specific like or dislike, and a final recommendation.