

Mastering the Art of the Book Review

Learning objective: To understand how to write a persuasive and balanced book review, incorporating personal opinion, summary, and recommendation.

Read each question carefully. Use your knowledge of literary structure to provide thoughtful, well-reasoned answers. Remember to use formal, persuasive language.

Word bank: recommendation · genre · summary · protagonist · persuasive · critique · captivating · cliffhanger

1. When writing a summary for a book review, why is it vital to avoid revealing the ending? Explain how this helps the reader. (2 marks)

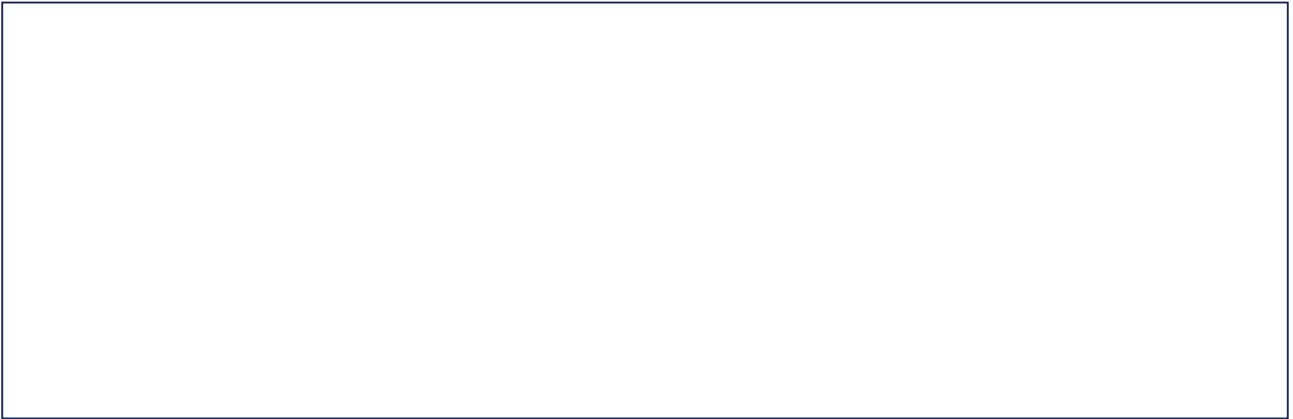
2. Max the monkey is writing a review. He wants to include a 'hook' in his opening paragraph to grab the reader's attention. Write a sample opening sentence for a mystery book that would make someone want to read it. (2 marks)

3. Identify two pieces of information that should be included in the introduction of a book review to help a potential reader identify if the book is suitable for them. (2 marks)

4. Pip the caterpillar is reviewing a book he didn't enjoy. How can he express his disappointment in a way that is polite, constructive, and helpful to the author? (3 marks)

5. Write a persuasive 'recommendation' statement (2-3 sentences) explaining who would enjoy reading a fictional adventure story about a lost city. (3 marks)

Draw: Draw a 'Star Rating' graphic that you would place at the bottom of your book review. Include an illustration of a book cover you have designed for your favourite story.



Extension challenge: Choose a book you have recently finished. Draft a short, 150-word review that includes a brief summary, your favourite character, and a specific reason why you would (or would not) recommend it to a classmate.