

Crafting a Compelling Book Review with Pip the Bookworm

Learning objective: To structure a persuasive and balanced book review using formal language and evaluative vocabulary.

Follow this scaffold to write your review. Remember to include your personal opinion while justifying your views with evidence from the text. Use the word bank to help you link your ideas together.

As I turned the final page of this extraordinary story, I was left pondering the clever twists that the author had woven throughout the plot.

Word bank: furthermore · consequently · compellingly · on the other hand · in retrospect · captivating · character development · gripping narrative · evocative · recommended for

1. Introduction: State the title and author, then provide a brief, spoiler-free summary. Start by writing: 'The book [Title], written by [Author], is a gripping tale that follows...' (2 marks)

2. Character Analysis: Describe the main character's growth. Start by writing: 'One of the most intriguing aspects of the story is the way the protagonist evolves because...' (2 marks)

3. The Plot and Themes: Discuss the atmosphere and the message. Start by writing: 'The author masterfully creates a sense of [atmosphere] which highlights the theme of...' (2 marks)

4. Personal Opinion: Explain what you enjoyed or found challenging. Start by writing: 'While some readers might find [aspect] slightly confusing, I believe that...' (2 marks)

5. Conclusion and Recommendation: Summarise your final verdict. Start by writing: 'Ultimately, I would strongly recommend this book to children who enjoy... because...' (2 marks)

Extension challenge: Try to incorporate one piece of figurative language, such as a metaphor or personification, to describe how the book made you feel.