How To Write A Book Review

Book Reviews are a way to show how well you understood a book and to tell what you think about it.

There are 4 parts to a book review:

1) Introduction:

- The title (underlined) and author of the book.
- What kind of story is it? (adventure, fantasy, mystery, comedy, animal, true life, scary)
- Why you chose the book. (Maybe the cover looked cool, you have read other books by the same author or you enjoy mystery books)

2) Summary:

- Introduce the main characters.
- Describe the setting and theme
- A short retelling of the main parts of the story. (Only the most important parts)

3) Opinion:

Tell what you think about the book. You can write about whatever opinions you have. Some questions you might want to answer are:

- Did you like the story? Why or why not?
- What was the best part of the book? Why?
- Which characters did you like and dislike? Why?
- How did the story make you feel?
- Did you feel different things at different points in the story?
- Would you read other books by this author?
- What new things did you learn from this book?

4) **<u>Conclusion</u>**: (1 or 2 sentences)

- Give your overall opinion of the book and the most important thing you want other people to know about it.
- Say if you would encourage others to read it or not.
- Compare to other books by same author if you can.

Definitions:

<u>Theme:</u> The message of the book, ("loyalty" or "never give up" or "friends are important."

Characters: The people or animals in the book.

Setting: Where and when the story takes place.

<u>Plot:</u> What actions happen in the book.

<u>Climax</u>: The most exciting part of the story

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(Simplified Version)

1) Introduction:

- Write an interesting introduction that makes the reader want to read on.
- Tell the title and the author of the book

2) Summary:

• Give a brief summary of the plot. (What happens in the book)

3) Opinion:

• Tell about your favorite part or least favorite part using adjectives (describing words.) Explain why you liked or did not like that part.

6) Conclusion:

- Write an exciting ending to conclude (end) your book review **without** telling the reader the end of the book!
- Explain why or why not someone should read this book.

Example:

Nothing Compares to a True Friend

Do you want to read an amazing story about friendship? Once you start reading, <u>Amber Brown is Not a Crayon</u> by Paula Danziger, you will not be able to put the book down. This story is packed with adventure and guaranteed to be enjoyed by readers of all ages.

This story begins when Amber Brown's best friend, Justin Daniels, tells her he is moving away. Amber starts to imagine third grade without him and decides she is not going to let him leave. The two friends work together to come up with ways to make Justin stay. They are both determined to stay together.

My favorite part is when Justin and Amber team together and try to discourage a family from buying Justin's house. They tell all kinds of lies about the house so that the family will not want to live there. This is my favorite part because I liked how Justin and Amber worked together to try to keep each other close by.

If this book doesn't make you laugh, nothing will! It was fun to read about Justin and Amber. You will be hooked and want to read more books in this series after reading this story.