

HOW TO WRITE A BOOK REVIEW



Your review should be no more than a hefty paragraph. Tell us a little about the book, what you liked or disliked, and round up with final thoughts.

Watch one of our [Book Talk](#) videos to hear examples of other kid reviews.

If you need more help, keep reading. The following guide provides prompts that will help you flush out your thoughts for your review.

1. Start with a couple of sentences describing what the book is about.

- But without giving any spoilers or revealing plot twists!
- Try to avoid writing in detail about anything that happens from about the middle of the book onwards.
- If the book is part of a series, it can be useful to mention this, and whether you think you'd need to have read other books in the series to enjoy this one.

2. Discuss what you liked about the book

You could try answering a couple of the following questions:

- Who was your favourite character, and why?
- Did the characters feel real to you?

- Did the story keep you guessing?
- What was your favourite part of the book, and why?
- Were certain types of scenes written particularly well - for example sad scenes, tense scenes, mysterious ones...?
- Did the book make you laugh or cry?
- Was the story gripping and keep you turning the pages?

3. Mention anything you disliked about the book

Talk about why you think it didn't work for you. It's ok to not like a part of the book and helpful to understand why. For example:

- Did you wish the ending hadn't been a cliffhanger because you found it frustrating?
- Did you find it difficult to care about a main character, and could you work out why?
- Was the story too scary for your liking?
- Did the story focus on a theme you didn't find interesting?

4. Round up your review

- Summarise some of your thoughts on the book by suggesting the type of reader you'd recommend the book to. For example: "If you like a mystery, this is the book for you".
- You can give the book a rating. For example: "I give this book 5 out of 5 stars."

Reference:

<https://www.booktrust.org.uk/books-and-reading/tips-and-advice/writing-tips/writing-tips-for-teens/how-to-write-a-book-review/>