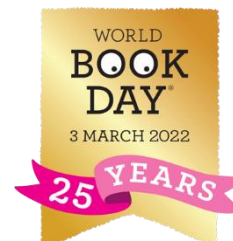


WORLD BOOK DAY 2022



Review writing tips

You need to think carefully about lots of different things when writing a book review – analysing your feelings, your knowledge of other books you have read (and how this one compares) and choosing the most appropriate language to convey what you want other readers to know about the book.

Step One

So, how to begin.....read other reviews! I cannot emphasise this enough. There are plenty of places you can go to check out book reviews; pick a book that you have read and look up reviews of it. Do you agree with the review? – think about how you might have written about it differently. Here are some suggestions of places to try:

- #bookstagram – there are a wealth of amazing accounts on Instagram that feature beautifully styled book photos and often include a review alongside. Seek them out by using the #bookstagram hashtag.

- Blogs - <http://www.yayahyeah.com/search/label/reviews>

<http://portablemagicdispenser.weebly.com/>

<https://neverjudgeabookbyitscover.co.uk/reviews-by-title>

<https://www.lovereadng4kids.co.uk/>

- Good Reads - <https://www.goodreads.com/>

- Newspapers - <http://booksforkeeps.co.uk/reviews>

[https://www.independent.co.uk/arts-entertainment/books/reviews/smell- other-people-s-houses-bonnie-sue-hitchcock-book-review-a6949216.html](https://www.independent.co.uk/arts-entertainment/books/reviews/smell-other-people-s-houses-bonnie-sue-hitchcock-book-review-a6949216.html)

- Short review - <https://peters.co.uk/books-of-the-week>

- Video Review – lots of examples from book bloggers on YouTube/Instagram/BookTok.... Just search “YA Book reviews”.

Step Two

Questions to consider before starting your review:

Did you like/enjoy the book?

Does the book fit into a particular genre (e.g. action, thriller, adventure, romance etc) and how does this impact its appeal to other readers? How does it compare to other books you have read in this genre? What qualities make it better/worse?

Who is your audience for the review? This could affect how formal/informal you choose to be in your writing style/vocabulary.

What does your audience need to know – sometimes it's useful to give a brief summary of the plot but if you do this it's important that you then offer some *opinion* in addition to this (recapping the plot on its own is NOT a book review).

Step Three

As you will have discovered from your research, there are numerous ways to structure your reviews. Here are some styles to consider for your own reviews:

Twitter Review – can you write a review in 280 characters or less? Trying to write so concisely forces you to think about what is essential for your reader to know.

Instagram Review – can you make a beautiful #bookstagram post with an artistic picture to accompany your review?

Sell it in 60 Video Review – can you tell the audience everything they need to know in just 60 seconds?

Newspaper Review – can you write a longer review using formal language?

Accessit Review – aim for a review of about one or two short paragraphs including a brief summary of genre, key themes and what was good/not so good about it.

Step Four

Where to share your reviews:

Accessit (email Ms Middleton if you are not sure of your login details).

Padlet: https://padlet.com/uobschool_book_reviews/DofEBookReviews