



How to write a book review

CAPS Statement

Writing & presenting

Writes a story

- Pre-writing: reads a book review and discusses the structure, language use, purpose and audience
- Writes a short summary
- Makes recommendations

Activity 1

Answer the questions about the story you have just read.

Clue: Keep looking back to double-check your answer!

What is a book review?

- A book review is a persuasive text.
- A book review usually contains what the writer thinks of the book. It is the writer's personal opinion.
- A book review will either make a reader want to read the book or choose not to read it.
- It contains what the book is about (a summary of the story).
- It contains the names of the main characters.
- A recommendation of who would enjoy the book

Answer the questions in the boxes below to help you plan your book review.

Clue: Use bullet points in the plan!

Title: _____

Author: _____

Who are the characters?

What happens in the story?



What parts of the story did you like?
Why?

What parts of the story did you dislike? Why?

Would you recommend it to a friend?



Teacher Tip

Once learners have read the story discuss similarities with similar fables or traditional tales such as 'The Hare and the Tortoise' and 'King Midas's Gold'.

With the learners, generate a list of powerful adjectives on the board for learners to use in their writing.

At the end of the lesson, encourage learners to read aloud and ask children to give feedback on their writing. Remember, they can only give feedback on positives.

