

Book Review Guidelines

The book review is a formal review of a text one student has chosen to read independently. It includes a synopsis and personal reaction to the text. Specific details from the piece must be used to illustrate and explain why and how the book was worthwhile (or not).

This assignment will count as a double homework grade, so be sure to proofread:

Students will lose up to ten points for convention errors and unlimited points for must-knows.

I will not accept any review that is not typed or cannot be read.

I will only accept reviews for books listed on your reading log(which must be teacher-approved).

You can change your book selection up to ten days before the review is due, after that, you cannot change your reading selection.

Your review can be presented in four ways. Each presentation must follow the guidelines listed below. If you plan to present a book talk or slideshow, you must inform me at least one day in advance. All other presentations must be submitted by the beginning of class.

Choices:

1. Type a book review of at least two well-written paragraphs. Ideas must be connected using transitions, not titles; this is not a poster. Avoid phrases like, "This book was really good." Instead, select words and ideas that will convey meaning with clarity. Page format for the document review:

Title (1)

Author (1)

Genre (1)

Original Year published, pages (1)

*Rating (1) : ***** (A)*

*(B) **** *** (C)*

*(D) ** * (F)*

2. Create an inviting poster. This could be a series of slides (digital poster) or a paper poster. Do not submit this as a document.

3. Prepare and present a book talk. You could also record a video of your book talk to show the class.

4. Present a slide show to the class (seventeen slides or more) submitted through Google Classroom

Rubric:

- Stay in the first person and avoid the pronoun "you" throughout.
- Begin with a grabbing lead or introduction. (5)
- Include a description and explanation of all of the main characters' personalities. (10)
- Describe the setting - time and place. (5)
- Include a detailed plot summary, full of voice and descriptive details, that explains just enough for the reader to decide if it is a book they might enjoy. This should include a summary of the main conflict. (10/5)
- Include at least one citation from the book. It should be at least one full sentence. Support and explain the importance of the excerpt and the reason it was selected. (5/5/5)
- Describe how the book connects with something in your life (self, world, family, community, or other books ...) and explain the connection in detail. (5/5/5)
- Elaborate on your feelings about the book: why did you give it that rating? Each star or lack of a star should be justified and explained with an example. Do not simply provide a list. This is a book review, not a book report. Explain specific things about the book that made it effective or ineffective. (5/5/5/5/5) Feel free to use quotes from the book.
- End with a satisfying conclusion. (5)