

Structure**Introduction:**

- Title and author of book.
- Why you chose the book.
- What kind of story it is.

Body:

Theme, plot, setting, characters.

- **Theme:** The main idea of the story.
- **Setting:** The time and place of the story.
- **Plot:** What happens in the story.
- **Characters:** Protagonist and other important characters.
- **Personal statement:** What you liked in the book and why.

Conclusion:

- A good review should express the reviewer's opinion and persuade the reader to share it, to read the book, or to avoid reading it. Remember, a winning paper will use examples from the book to back up comments.

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- **Tips:** Give your reader a **taste** of the plot, but **don't give the surprises away**. Readers want to know enough about what happens in a book to know whether they'll find it interesting. But they never want to know the ending! Summarize the plot in a way that will answer some questions about the book, but leave other questions in the reader's mind. You may want to make a list of questions about the book before you begin.

See next page for details!

How to Write a Book Report

Introduction

Things to include in the introduction:

- The title (underlined) and author of the book.
- Why you chose the book.
- What kind of story is it? (adventure? family? fantasy/make believe? animal? true life? scary?)

Body

In this section you want to describe the main parts of a story: theme, plot, setting, and characters. Then you can give your opinions about the book.

The Theme is the main idea of the story. Some examples might be the importance of friendship or how to be courageous in a difficult situation. Tell what you think the theme is and how you know.

The Setting is the time and place of the story. Is it set a long time ago or now. Does it take place in another country or in an imaginary place? How much time passes in the story—a day? a year? a lifetime?

The Plot is what happens. You want to tell what the story is mostly about. What is the main event or conflict? What things lead up to it? What happens as a result? How does the story end? (Sometimes you want to avoid telling the ending, or giving away the secrets of the story.)

Be careful not to re-tell the whole story in detail—you want room in your report to write about other things; instead, just say enough about it so the rest of your report will make sense.

The Characters are who the story is about. The main character is called the protagonist. Who are the other important characters? Do they help or hinder the protagonist?

Once you have summarized the book, you can tell what you think about it. 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?
- How did the story make you feel? Did you feel different things at different points in the story?
- Would you recommend it to friends?
- Would you read other books by this author?
- What new things did you learn from this book?

Conclusion

This is just a sentence or two to sum up your report. Give your overall opinion of the book and the most important thing you want other people to know about it.

Source: <http://www.infoplease.com/homework/wsbookreportelem.html>