

Name: _____

Book Report

This is a guide only. It is not meant to write the report for you. It gives you a format/template for writing your own report. However, every teacher may have another book report format that he/she prefers. So, make sure you know what they want before beginning.

Book report title: _____

Introductory Paragraph

Begin with the hook. For this report choose one of the following:

- 1: The Startling Sentence: If we were all magicians, everything in the world would be purple, my favorite color.
- 2: The Question: What would you do if you could fly?
- 3: The Story Opener: Once upon a time there was a boy whose parents were killed by an evil wizard.

Other details that can go in the introduction:

Bibliographic information about the book. Bibliographic information means not only the author, title and genre but perhaps adding what company published the book, what year it was published in and any other relevant information such as the edition and if the book has been translated, simplified or abridged. (See copyright page and the back of the title page for this information.)

You may want to state the reason(s) you decided to read this book. These reasons do not have to be complex. Most people choose the books they read because they like the author or somebody recommended it to them. If you chose the book because you like the author, then state why you like that author. Finally, what is the number one thing you want to say about this book? What was the number one thing that stands out for you in this book, that you want to discuss in greater detail? This is the thesis statement.

An optional sentence can be used if the cover (back cover) of the book gives you any additional information. Other things to include throughout the essay: Was the book a best seller? Are there X million copies in print? Did it win any major awards?

Paragraph 1 (Introduction)

Introductory sentences (Hook, introduce book and general subject, genre):

Thesis Statement:

Paragraph 2 (Sub-Topic 1)

Plot Summary Paragraph

This is perhaps the hardest paragraph to write in five sentences or so. If you have to write a bit more don't worry. Here are some main points to cover:

- What place or country was the book set in? What time period was the book set in? (19th century, the present, ancient Rome, the 23rd century).
- Other physical locations which are important, like: ships, airplanes, houses, or buildings.
- Other notable attributes of the book. (Was it violent, scary, fast paced, etc.).
- What is the main character trying to do? What is the main problem/conflict?
- What is the outcome of the book?

Make sure you cover all of the major parts of the plot. You might have to go back through the book, chapter by chapter, and make a few notes.

Topic Sentence:

Supporting details:

Concluding Sentence: (How it ends and your impression)

Paragraph 3 (Sub-Topic 2)

This paragraph should support your thesis statement and discuss what you liked about the characters in the book and why. Focus on the protagonist and the conflict this character is faced with. Here you present your argument and defend it.

Topic Sentence:

Supporting details: (examples from book, reasons, facts)

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Concluding Sentence:

Paragraph 4 (Sub-Topic 3)

This paragraph should support your thesis statement and discuss what you liked about the book and why. Here you present your argument and defend it. This may include the theme, a character, setting, plot, mood, tone.

Topic Sentence:

Supporting details: Example, facts and reasons.

[illegible]

Concluding Sentence:

Paragraph 5 (Conclusion)

Personal Impressions and Conclusion Paragraph

Simply talk about what you liked or did not like about the book. It should summarize your overall impressions of the book and bring the report to a close.

Start with a sentence that states that you are now writing a conclusion. (For example: "My final thoughts on 'A Fine Balance' are that it is a fascinating book but I am not entirely sure if I completely agree with the thematic message of the book.")

Restate your reasons why you liked and/or disliked the book using different words.

- Write two sentences that talk about the books good points and weak points. Summarize.
- Write a sentence or two about what you learned from the book.
- Write a sentence that states whether you would recommend the book to others (who?).

[illegible]

Make sure you end with a general idea about the subject of the essay that suits your thesis statement.

Final thoughts:

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