



## Part 2 review

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1 Look at the exam task and answer these questions.

- 1 Who will read your review?
- 2 What should it contain?
- 3 How many words must you write?

## Exam task

You see this notice in an international English-language magazine.

Have you read a good novel recently? If so, would you like to write a review of it? Include information on the setting, story and main characters, and say whether you would recommend the book to other readers.

Write your **review** in **140–190** words.

2 Read the model review and answer these questions.

- 1 Match the headings a–d with the four paragraphs of the review.
  - a conclusion and recommendation
  - b comments on various aspects of the book
  - c introduction and setting
  - d outline of the story and main characters
- 2 Is the review written in a style that is quite formal or very informal? Give examples.
- 3 Find words in the review that mean the following:
  - a things that happen in the story (noun)
  - b moves along quickly (adjective)
  - c completely holds your attention (adjective)
  - d can make you believe they are real (adjective)
  - e makes you admire it (adjective)
  - f subjects of a book, film, play, etc. (noun)
  - g that makes it difficult to relax (adjective)
- 4 Does the reviewer recommend the book to other readers? If so, in which sentence?

## The Sugar Glider

Rod Neilsen's novel *The Sugar Glider* is an adventure story set in Australia, moving from the modern coastal city of Brisbane to the wild uninhabited interior.

When a cargo plane crashes in the outback, pilot Don Radcliffe and his teenage daughter Judy quickly realise it was no accident. They then face a struggle to survive in the desert as a criminal gang tries to find the illegal cargo – and them. It is a struggle in which Judy soon finds herself having to take the lead.

The plot is well constructed and as the story develops it becomes fast-paced and quite gripping. The main characters, particularly Judy, are convincing, and for such a short book there is an impressive mixture of themes that range from dishonesty, greed and selfishness, to courage, family values and concern for native culture.

This is a book that I could not put down, and I read it right through in a few hours. If you enjoy a tense thriller which is quick and easy to read, I suggest you choose this one.

3 Which of these descriptive adjectives usually have a negative meaning?

absurd bizarre breathtaking delightful dreadful exceptional  
fine moving mysterious outstanding poor predictable  
remarkable slow-moving superb tremendous

4 Which of these expressions do we use to recommend something, and which to say not to do something?

My advice is to avoid this ... and instead ...  
This ... is really worth ... because ...  
This is one of the best ... I have ever ... , so I suggest ...  
I would advise everyone to ... a better ... than this, such as ...  
Anyone who likes ... will really enjoy this ...

### Quick steps to writing a Part 2 review

- Think about who your readers are and what they want to know.
- Make a plan that includes description, explanation and conclusion.
- Try to include some interesting facts and lively comments.
- Recommend or advise readers against the subject of your review.

5 Write your own book review. Include some descriptive adjectives.

6 When you have finished, check your work as in Unit 1 Writing Exercise 5 on page 14.