Book Review Step-By-Step

1. 1st Paragraph - Introduce the book

* Give a 1 or 2 sentence introduction to the book (name the genre, title, and the author’s name)
* Give a 1 or 2 sentence summary of the book (include the setting and main character(s))
* State the theme in 1 sentence
* Encourage your reader to read the book

1. 2nd Paragraph - Go more in-depth with the setting of the book

* What is the time and place in which the book is set?
* How does it compare or contrast to the world you live in?
* How does the setting tie into the story?

1. 3rd, 4th, and maybe 5th Paragraphs – Overview of characters & In-depth information on important characters

* Who are key characters?
* What’s basic information about them?

Moving to important characters (1 paragraph for each important character):

* Who is the character?
* What are the character’s traits?
* What motivates the character?
* Do you like the character? Why/why not?
* How is the character important to the story?

1. 6th or 7th Paragraph – Go more in-depth with the plot of the book

* Give your reader a taste of the plot, but DO NOT give the surprises away.
* Summarize the plot in a way that will answer some questions about the book, but leave other questions in the reader’s mind

1. 7th or 8th Paragraph - Theme

* What is the theme of the novel?
* How do you know?
* Why does it matter?

1. 8th or 9th Paragraph – Closing

* Encourage the reader to read the book
* Make them want to know more

Tips & Tricks to Use While Writing

1. Try thinking of your reader as a friend to whom you’re telling a story.
2. Try to mention the name of the author and the book title in the first paragraph.
3. Try using a few short quotes from the book to illustrate your points. This is not absolutely necessary, but it’s a good way to give your reader a sense of the author’s writing style.
4. Make sure your review explains how you feel about the book and why, not just what the book is about. 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.

Finished with the rough draft? Do this!

1. Check back through the tips & tricks and make sure you’ve used as many of the suggestions as possible.
2. Read through each paragraph and make sure the main point is clear and explain *why* the point is important.
3. If a sentence or paragraph seems awkward or unclear, it has to be rewritten – and rewriting is what separates good writing from bad.
4. Check to make sure you’re not repeating yourself. Repetitive writing makes for dull reading.
5. Check your capitalization, word usage, punctuation, transitions, and spelling.

Book Review Step-By-Step

1. 1st Paragraph - \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ the book

* Give a 1 or 2 sentence intro. to the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (name the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, and the author’s name)
* Give a 1 or 2 sentence summary of the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

(include the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ character(s))

* State the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in 1 sentence
* Encourage your \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ the book

1. 2nd Paragraph - Go more in-depth with the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of the book

* What is the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in which the book is set?
* How does it \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ you \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_?
* How does the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ into the story?

1. 3rd, 4th, and maybe 5th Paragraphs – Overview of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ & In-depth information on \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ characters

* Who are key \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_?
* What’s basic \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ about them?

Moving to important characters (1 paragraph for each \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

* \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ is the character?
* \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ are the character’s \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_?
* Do you \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ the character? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_?
* How is the character \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_?

1. 6th or 7th Paragraph – Go more \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ with the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of the book

* Give your reader a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, but \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ give the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ away.
* \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ the plot in a way that will \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ some \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ about the book, but \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ other questions in the reader’s \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

1. 7th or 8th Paragraph – \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

* What is the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of the novel?
* \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ do you \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_?

1. 8th or 9th Paragraph- \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

* \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ the reader to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ the book
* \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ them want to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ more

Tips & Tricks to Use While Writing

1. Try \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of your \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ as a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to whom you’re telling a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
2. Try to mention the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ paragraph.
3. Try using a few \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ from the book to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ your \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. This is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ absolutely \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, but it’s a good way to give your \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ a sense of the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ writing \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
4. Make sure your review \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ how you \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ about the book and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ just what the book is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. A good review should express the reviewer’s \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ the reader to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ it, to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ the book, or to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ reading it.

Finished with the rough draft? Do this!

1. Check back through the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ & \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and make sure you’ve used as \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of the suggestions as \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
2. Read through \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ paragraph and make sure the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ is clear and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ *\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_* the point is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
3. If a sentence or paragraph seems \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, it has to be \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ – and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ is what separates \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ writing from \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
4. Check to make sure you’re \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ yourself. Repetitive writing makes for \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
5. Check your \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ usage, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.