

May 2, 2012

Book Review

- Write one good review and one bad review of 2 different novels (books you read this year).
- Each review should be at least 2-3 paragraphs
- Do not summarize the book (plot, events, or characters), BUT you do need to give specific details about the theme (feeling) of the book, the main character, the author's style, etc. (examples that show your opinion).
- Use a lot of good vocabulary/adjectives/WC that describe the character(s) and the

theme (look at DOAWK-Diary of Wimpy Kid ex.)

- No irrelevant (unimportant) details – all/only important info. included!!!
- Strong opening, well organized paragraphs with examples/support from the book.
- Entertaining, informative, strong opinion and advice
- Variety of sentences (complex, compound, sentence starters, etc.)
- Complex Ex: **When** I eat sugar, I get hyper.
- Compound Ex: I like to play baseball, **and** I also like to play soccer.
- Research examples of good and bad reviews of books you have read (www.amazon.com)

SAMPLE BOOK REVIEW

(SHOW STUDENTS ON SMARTBOARD)

As a (more mature) 13 year old, I thought this book was genuinely funny. However, unlike younger kids, I've already established what is right and wrong. Cheating, lying, manipulating, and acting dumb "just to get less work" is all in this book, and when my younger eight year old brother reads this, I get paranoid of what exactly he's picking up. He doesn't seem to want to go to a gifted program at school, thinks less of school, and I think it is because of this book! To older audiences, Greg is a very interesting character (which is the prevalent reason why the series is so popular) but he is one of the most irresponsible fictional characters I have come across in a long time. And since the story is told from HIS viewpoint, it even makes it worse! His mind thinks of the all the previously mentioned things to be perfectly fine. I would absolutely not recommend this book to...more vulnerable kids.

On the plus side, the novel IS truly funny, with its charming digital drawings and witty main character- who keeps the story lively (ignoring his bad influence) throughout the entire book.

