

Reviewing

What, Why, Where and How?



- **Books**
- **Films**
- **Games**



What?

Why?

Praise: share a good book

Commercial e.g. publisher

Commission by periodical

Critical: expose Emperor's clothes?

Where?

Blog, website

Social, online or
paper media

Competitions

Necessities

Book Title

Author

Publisher's name

Date published

ISBN number
(buying link)



FILM

The title

The year it came out

Director & screenwriter

Lead actors

Genre

Production company



Purpose?

Opinion & info
so a
reader/viewer
can decide if it is
for them



A good review is:

Honest

Engaging

Thoughtful

Well-written

Informative

[GWC criteria!)

Tells us :

What it's about

Genre

Style - illustrative text quotes help

Compares similar books

Suggests who it is aimed at or might enjoy it

Gives Author info e.g.

Background - credibility

Other books

Language and Angle

Choose words carefully. Be succinct.

**Give it a point/focus to hang your opinion on.
Structure it. Aim to provoke or amuse**

**In competitions, use all the available word
count. Check grammar and punctuation**

Optional

- Comment on the choice of title
- Cover
- Trends in books

**None of the reviews we
adjudicated for SAW made all
our criteria!**



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Summary of Book Review Hints

- **Choose an angle**
- **Make your own style amusing, chatty - even provocative**
- **Show content, style, genre, intended reader**
- **Show what you liked/disliked about it**
- **Say if it made you likely to read more from the author?**
- **Tell us about them**
- **Give library or buying details (publisher**

Helpful sites to aid writing a review

- <https://www.grammarly.com/blog/how-to-write-book-review/>
- <https://www.booktrust.org.uk/books-and-reading/tips-and-advice/writing-tips/writing-tips-for-teens/authors-tips/how-to-start-a-book-blog/>
Good for all ages
- <https://lithub.com/13-common-mistakes-in-book-reviewing-and-how-to-avoid-them/>
(very amusing!)
- <https://www.wikihow.com/Write-a-Book-Review>
- <https://reedsy.com/discovery/blog/get-paid-to-read>

FILM REVIEWS



<https://www.dailywritingtips.com/7-tips-for-writing-a-film-review/>

- **View the film more than once if possible ...**
- **Give an opinion and support your criticism. ...**
- **Adjust style for the readership. ...**
- **Avoid spoilers. ...**
- **Judge the story. ...**
- **Rate the actors. ...**
- **Evaluate the technical elements eg special effects**

Review Sites to view or post

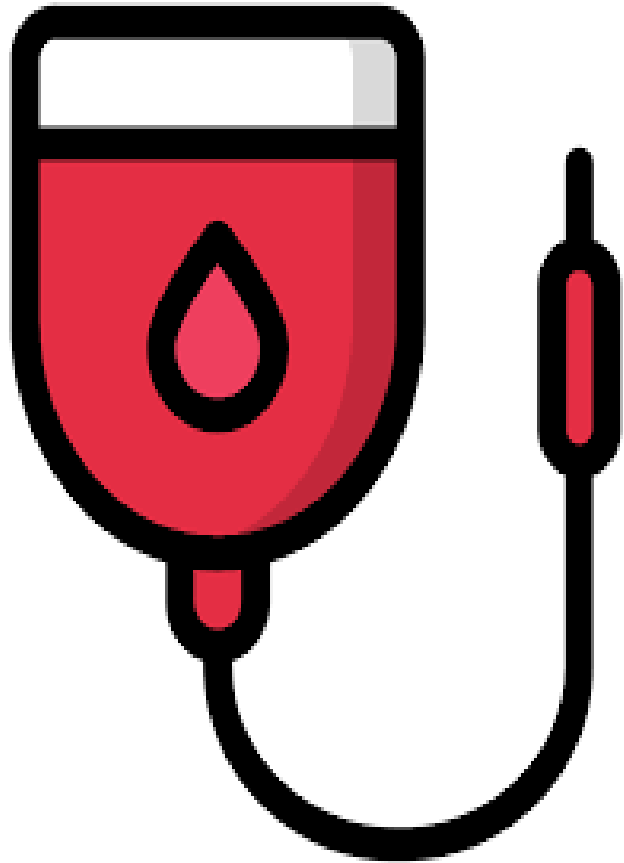
• <https://www.rottentomatoes.com/> (film)

• <https://www.facebook.com/groups/GoodHousekeepingBookRoom>
/ (34K+ members)

• <https://www.goodreads.com>

• <https://www.facebook.com/groups/TimesFirstEdition/>
(10.4K)

• <https://www.facebook.com/groups/FictionCafe/> (15K)



**Blogs and
Reviews are the
lifeblood
of indie authors!**

Star Ratings -Subjective!

- 5 stars COULD'NT PUT IT DOWN! *'Highly Recommended!'*
- 4 * ENJOYABLE READ some gripes. *'Worth reading'*
- 3 * IT WAS GOOD Few more gripes though eg slow in parts. *'OK.'*
- 2* LIKED IT A BIT but problem with style, characterization or plot
- 1* NOT MY CUP OF TEA — Disliked/ several issues e.g offence?