Reviews
What are they?
What do we use them for?

What are reviews?

A review is a summary, analysis and evaluation of a text resulting in an opinion or judgement. Reviews aim to summarise/analyse a text and access its appeal and value to its audience. Reviews can include factual information as well as opinion.

Reviews use:

- Present tense
- Modality
- Evaluative language
- Descriptive language
- Cause and effect connectives.
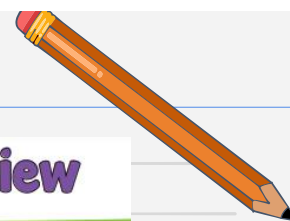
Where might we see reviews?

- Book Reviews
- Movie Reviews
- Attraction Reviews (sites, hotels, restaurants)
- Food Reviews
- Toy Reviews
- Can you think of anymore?

Structure of reviews

A review includes:

- Context and background information— this includes a title, author/artists/composer and a brief summary of the particular topic, issue or thing.
- Text description— this includes an analysis of significant features such as character(s) settings, descriptions, themes, graphics, actors, genre, producers etc.
- Conclusion— this concludes an evaluation of the text and gives a recommendation that attempts to persuade the audience to do something.

Writing A Review

☑ Title

☑ **Introduction**
State information about the text

☑ **Brief Summary**
Summarise the main points/events

☑ **Critical Summary**
Detailed assessment of the different elements

☑ **Conclusion**
Sum up your evaluation

A Review

Matilda by Roald Dahl

Title

Introduction

Matilda, written by Roald Dahl and first published in 1988, **is** a tale of courage, hope and friendship. Matilda may seem like an ordinary girl to her parents, her brother and her terrifying headmistress; but her **kind and gentle teacher** knows that there is more to this tiny young girl than meets the eye.

Text description

Matilda is considered to be nothing but an inconvenience by her family, the Wormwoods. **As a result**, she is barely noticed. It is only when Matilda begins school that her teacher, Miss Honey, notices her brilliance. When the pair decide to unite against a common enemy, they form a unique friendship which will bind them together for many years to come.

Conclusion and recommen- dation

Matilda is yet another demonstration of Roald Dahl's skills as a children's author. The characters of Matilda and Miss Honey are so **instantly likeable**; whereas The Wormwoods and Miss Trunchbull are the perfect villains. The theme of good winning out in the end is also very appealing. Children who love funny, adventurous stories will **definitely** love Roald Dahl's **Matilda**.

Present tense

Descriptive language

Cause and effect connective

Evaluation language

Modality

teachstarter