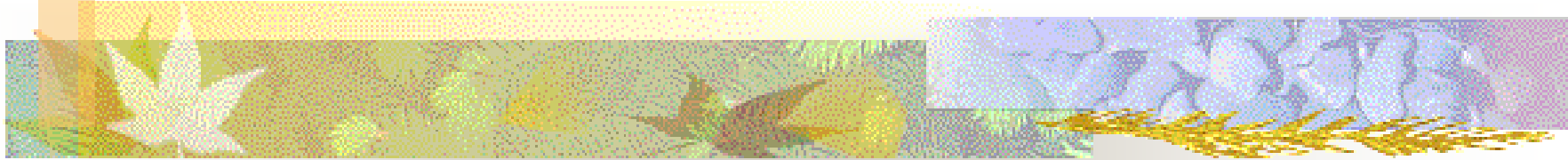


WRITING A BOOK REVIEW



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Outline of Topic

- Introduction
- What is a book review?
- Purpose of book review
- What to put in book review?
- Preliminary steps with examples
- Sources of book review



INTRODUCTION

- Review is a critical evaluation of a text, event, object or phenomenon.
- Reviews can consider books, articles, entire genres or fields of literature, art, policies, exhibitions, performances and many other forms.

<https://writingcenter.unc.edu/tips-and-tools/book-reviews/>



What Is A Book Review ?

- A written opinion of **what you think** of a certain book as well as an accompanying summary.
- A book review is a form of **literary criticism** in which a book is analysed based on content, style and merit.

<https://www.definitions.net/definition/Book%20review>

Purpose of book Review

- Provide a thoughtful perspectives, Saves Time, Decreases Risk To Readers
- Greater Visibility, Greater Chance Of Getting Found
- Writing review articles/ Publications
- More Sales

Just
the
Right
Book
WEBSITES & MORE



VALIDATED

<https://www.dudleycourtpress.com/book-reviews/>



What to Put in A Book Review?

- Identify your book.
- Identify the author.
- Identify yourself.

<http://www.library.mun.ca/guides/howto/>

Cont...

- Reviewing a fiction book
(Research other literature/topic
(Background of book), author
information)
-(e.g. Novel)
- Reviewing a Non-fiction book
(Compare author arguments with
other evidences, author
information etc.)



Analyze & Evaluate Arguments

- 1 Summarize the **REASONS**.
Explain the author's reasons and decide if they make sense.
- 2 Assess the **EVIDENCE**.
Describe the quantity and quality of the proof.
- 3 Identify **PERSPECTIVES**.
Evaluate the level of balance within the argument.
- 4 Investigate the **AUTHOR**.
Assess author expertise on the topic.





Identifying the Book

- Be sure to give your readers this information:
 - the author
 - the full title
 - the publisher
 - the place and date of publication
 - the edition



Identifying the Author

- Where appropriate, identify the **author's qualifications** and any other **personal information** that is relevant to your discussion of the book. This may apply more to non-fiction works.
- If you have read other works by the same author, try to place the book with reference to the author's other writings.



Identifying Yourself

- People's reactions to and opinions of a book will vary according to what they bring to the book.
- Let your audience know anything about yourself which may color your experience of the book.
- This may help your readers to determine how to evaluate your opinions of the material.



Before You Begin

- Book reviews are highly **personal** and reflect the **opinions of the reviewer**.
- A review may be as short as **50-100 words** or as long as **1500 words**, depending on the purpose of the review.
- Before writing the review, be sure that you understand what type of review is required for your assignment.
- Keep your audience in mind! This will help define the emphasis you put on various parts of the review.

https://www.library.mun.ca/researchtools/guides/writing/write_book_review/



Preliminary Steps

- Title
- Author
- Place
- Publisher
- Publication Date
- Edition
- Pages
- Special Features (e.g. Maps)



Proceeding with main part

- Opening sentence about the book & whether you need to read other books.
- Critical discussion
- Analysis with personal response or perspective

<https://www.wabashcenter.wabash.edu/resources/book-reviews/>

Critical Discussion



- Who was your favorite character and why?
- Did the characters feel real to you?
- What was your favourite part of the book and why?
- Were certain aspects written particularly well - for example happy occasions, sad scenes, tense scenes ...?
- Did the book make you happy or sad?
- Anything you disliked?



Conclusion



- Summaries your thoughts
- Focus on strength & weakness of book & how well it met its objectives
- Suggest the type of readers who could be interested –young / old/ women/ men/ comedy/ romantic etc.
- Comparison to similar books or series if any
- Address the book main topics & ideas and explain why they matter



Ways to Approach the Book Review

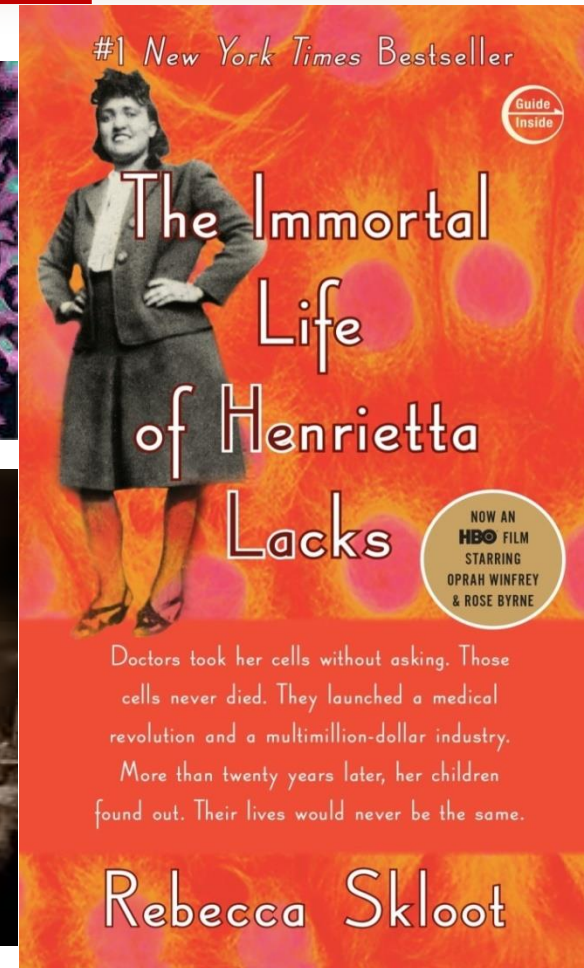
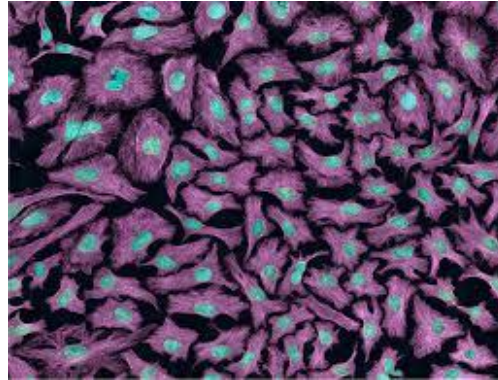
- **Outline** the contents of the book
- **Evaluate** and make critical comments on the book
- **Use quotations** or references to the new ideas in the book to illustrate your theme
- **Compare** the book with a similar work by a contemporary
- Point out the **author's intentions**, including the audience for which the book is intended
- Relate the work to a **social or literary trend**.

<https://guides.library.queensu.ca/bookreviews>

Supporting Evidence



- Hela cells?
- Henrietta Lacks?
- Ethical violation ?



<https://www.technologynetworks.com/cancer-research/videos/the-immortal-cells-of-henrietta-lacks-320238>



TITLE: THE IMMORTAL LIFE OF HENRIETTA LACKS

- No dead woman has done more for the living...A fascinating, harrowing, necessary Book'
- 'Moving and magnificent.....a heart-breaking account of racism and injustice'

Organization of Content



- Abstract
- Keywords
- Introduction
- Sub themes-Affliction, Morality And Ethics, Immortal, Science, Race
- Conclusion
- [C:\Users\Pavilion\Desktop\4825-A-2017.pdf](http://journalijcar.org/sites/default/files/issue-files/4825-A-2017.pdf)

<http://journalijcar.org/sites/default/files/issue-files/4825-A-2017.pdf>



■ How to Write a Scholarly Book Review for Publication in a Peer-Reviewed Journal

Alexander D. Lee, DC, Bart N. Green, DC, MSED, Claire D. Johnson,

Abstract

- **Conclusions:** The scholarly book review serves many purposes and has the potential to be an influential literary form. The process of publishing a successful scholarly book review requires the reviewer to appreciate the book review publication process and to be aware of the skills and strategies involved in writing a successful review.



Further Reading



"ETHICALLY IMPOSSIBLE"
STD Research in Guatemala
from 1946 to 1948

Presidential Commission
for the Study of Bioethical Issues

September 2011

- Examples of academic book reviews may be found at <http://edrev.asu.edu>.
- For more guidance, consider reading a book on reviewing, or visit one of these websites:
 - [Queen's Library University](#)
 - Memorial University Libraries
 - [Writing Tutorial Services](#)
 - [Literacy Education Online](#)



THANK YOU.....

