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| **Lesson Title:** Book Review | | **Theme:** Writing | |
| **Practice Activity:** PHL-09-142 | | **Class:** JSS 3 | |
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| **Learning Outcomes**  By the end of the lesson, you will be able to apply knowledge of essay writing to writing a book review. | | | |

**Overview**

When you write a **book review**, you typically include:

* Title of the book
* Name of the author, poet or playwright
* Nationality of the author, poet or playwright
* Publisher
* Date of publication
* Contents/important details in the story
* Feelings or attitude towards a character or the story

A book review is organised into paragraphs, including an introduction and a conclusion. You must also **summarise** the book. In other words, you must highlight the main points.

In the first paragraph, write the title of the book, the author’s name and place of birth, and the publisher and date of publication. In the second paragraph, summarise important details of the story. This means briefly write what the story is about. In the third paragraph, write about how you feel toward a main character or about the story. Say whether you like or dislike the story.

**Practice**

**Activity 1**

Use the following outline to help you plan a book review about a book you have read.

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| Title  Introduction: include title of the book, author’s name and place of birth, publisher and date of publication  Body Paragraph(s): summarise important details of the story  Conclusion: how you feel toward a main character or about the story. Say whether you like or dislike the story, if you recommend this story or not |

**Activity 2**

Use your outline to write a book review about a book you have read.

After you have finished writing, check your book review to make sure that you have included the following:

* Title of the book
* Name of the author, poet or playwright
* Nationality of the author, poet or playwright
* Publisher
* Date of publication
* Contents/important details in the story
* Feelings or attitude towards a character or the story
* well-organised paragraphs
* no spelling or grammar errors

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| **Lesson Title:** Book Review |
| **Practice Activity:** PHL-09-142 |

**Activity 1**

Example outline:

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| Book Review for Half of a Yellow Sun  Introduction: Half of a Yellow Sun, Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie, Nigeria, Knopf, 2006  Body Paragraph(s):   * Biafran War, Nigeria 1960s * Twin sisters, Olanna and Kainene who fall in love with very different men * Story focuses on the relationships between the different characters and contrasts them with Ugwu, the Odenigbo’s houseboy.   Conclusion: I felt sorry for Olanna. Odenigbo was selfish. My favourite character was Kainene because she was strong and passionate. |

**Activity 2**

Example book review:

Book Review for Half of a Yellow Sun

‘Half of a Yellow Sun’ is a very interesting story written by Nigerian writer, Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie. It was first published in 2006 by Knopf. It has won many literary awards.

The novel takes place during the Biafran War in Nigeria during the late 1960s, and the war is an important part of the story. The two main characters are twin sisters, Olanna and Kainene, daughters of a wealthy Igbo family. The story develops as the sisters fall in love with very different men. Olanna leaves her glamorous life in Lagos to follow Odenigbo, a university professor who is passionate about the revolution, while Richard, a young and shy Englishman, falls in love with Kainene. The story looks at the relationships between the different characters and contrasts them with the life of Ugwu, Odenigbo’s houseboy, who comes from a poor rural village.

I felt sorry for Olanna because she loved Odenigbo very much, but he was very selfish and expected her to give up everything for him. My favourite character was Kainene because she was strong and passionate about the things that mattered to her. I would recommend that people read this book.