

Writing a Book Report – Part 2

Welcome to the next stage of your book report. This is where you start doing some writing of your own. You should have been reading this whole week long, so perhaps you have finished your book or you are most of the way through. By this point in your book, you should have been introduced to the main characters, you should have some idea about where and when the book takes place and what your book is about. Fantastic! This is what you are going to be writing about today – really, you have until next Thursday if you need to take your time and read some more.

So how do I begin?

I'm sure this is the first question that comes to mind for many of you! The first thing to reiterate is that this whole book report will be written in your draft books, and when you are finished you are going to edit it before writing a good copy. Secondly, this book report will be written in paragraphs, so this means that I will tell you today what needs to be in this first introductory paragraph, but it is not like you are answering questions.

What is a paragraph?

A paragraph is many sentences written about one topic. This means, today when you are writing your first introductory paragraph, you will be writing many sentences about introducing your book. Paragraphs are separated from each other by a line in the page, and you will notice many paragraphs in your book divided by a distinct line.

Ok, what do I write about in my first paragraph today?

Today you are writing your introductory paragraph, and you are going to write about some of the important things people would need to know when being introduced to a book. There are two main things you need to write about:

1. Who the main characters are, including their names and a very short (1 or two 2 sentence) description of what they do in the book.
2. Where and when is the book set (for example, does the book take place in a magical fantasy land somewhere in the future, or is it set in Australia in 1930, in the past, or is it set in the present, now?)

If you don't know the answers, you can always take your best guess but you will have to tell us why it is your best guess. For example, you could write something like; "I do not know when this book is set, however my best guess would be in the present day because the character drives a hybrid car."

If you are stuck and don't know how to begin, a good sentence to start this paragraph would be something like this (just taking Gilgamesh as an example):

"The book that I read for this book report is titled 'Gilgamesh,' and is a story with many characters who experience many different hardships and adventures along the way. The main characters are...." And there you can go on to describe the main characters and then talk about the where the book is set and in what time (when).

What if I'm still stuck and I don't know how to begin?

If you've really tried, you've written a beginning and you have re-listened to these instructions, you've thought about the point you're stuck on and you've looked back at the book, then you should have a question for me that I can help with! Just use the contact form on the website to write your question and I will either email back or give you a call.

I hope you have fun learning a whole new way of writing Class 5!