

Critical Thinking Skills

How to Write a Book Report

Skills For Critical Thinking	Chapters											
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
LEVEL 1 Remembering <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Define, Describe, Identify, Label, List, Match, Name, State 	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
LEVEL 2 Understanding <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Describe, Discuss, Explain, Paraphrase, Restate, Summarize 	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
LEVEL 3 Applying <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Predict, Project, Produce, Relate, Report; Show 	✓	✓	✓		✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	
LEVEL 4 Analysing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Illustrate, Infer, Outline, Point Out, Prioritize, Recognize 		✓	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓		
LEVEL 5 Evaluating <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Appraise, Compare and Contrast, Conclude, Decide, Support 			✓		✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	
LEVEL 6 Creating <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Categorize, Compare, Compose, Contrast, Create; Design; Revise 	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓		✓

Based on Bloom's Taxonomy



Kinds of Book Reports

Use one of the terms in the box to fill in each blank.

Fiction	nonfiction	adventure	historical fiction	stories	family
historical fact stories	mystery	realistic fiction	science fiction	science stories	
fairy tales & fantasy	biographies	animal storybooks	nature		

- a) All books can be classified as _____ or _____.
- b) _____ books are stories that are made up by the author.
- c) _____ books are about real things, people, events, and places.
- d) _____ books are about the environment, taking care of the earth, nature, or wildlife and are fact.
- e) _____ books are about exciting journeys, interesting places, heroes, and spies, and can be fiction or nonfiction.
- f) _____ and _____ books are about dragons, wizards, imaginary characters and places and are fiction.
- g) _____ books are about crimes, investigations, puzzles with no answers, and questions about animals or other creatures and can be fiction or nonfiction.
- h) _____ are books about true stories about real people's lives and are fact.
- i) _____ books are about possible future events, travel to other galaxies, and future inventions and are fiction.
- j) _____ are books about real life in other times and real people from the past.



The Writing Watch Dog says,
“Genre means a particular type of literature. All the words in the box above name different genres books for students.”



Non Fiction Book Reports

There are some differences between a fiction book report and a nonfiction book report. A **fiction book** is a novel or story that describes **imaginary** people and events made up by the **author**. A **nonfiction book** is about **real things, people, events, and places**. Diaries, letters, and true historical stories are all nonfiction.

A **nonfiction book report** is made up of three parts – the **introduction**, the **body**, and the **conclusion**. The information in each part is described in this diagram:

The introduction of the book report includes:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The title of the book • The author of the book • A brief introduction to the book 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The genre of the book • The book's copyright and publishing information
The body of the book report includes:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the subject of the book • a summary of the book • The author's qualifications 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Examples from the book • a general overview of the author's topic, main points, and argument
The conclusion of the book report includes:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The book's strengths and weaknesses • Would you recommend this book to a friend? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What you want your readers to know about this book.

All nonfiction books can be divided into three types: 1. informative, 2. biographies, and 3. autobiographies. Each type of nonfiction book is described in this diagram:

Types of Nonfiction Books
1. Informative Books – books that provide useful or interesting information. Informative books include all kinds of textbooks such as science, social studies, and history books.
2. Biography – The story of a person's life written, composed, or produced by another person.
3. Autobiography – A narrative in which an individual tells his or her own life story.

There are thousands and thousands of nonfiction books in your media center or library. Your media specialist will be glad to help you find the type of nonfiction book you wish to read and make a report about. Of course, you can always find the titles of nonfiction books by using the internet or visiting a bookstore.



Graphic Organizers for Oral Book Reports

Choose a book that you have recently read and use the information from it to complete one of the oral book report graphic organizers below. Make sure that your organizer is suitable for the type of book you choose.

Story Map

The Story Map graphic organizer consists of several interconnected boxes:

- Main Characters** (top left)
- Setting** (top right)
- Supporting Characters** (middle left)
- Title & Author** (center)
- Problem** (middle right)
- Solutions** (bottom left)

Arrows indicate relationships: Main Characters points to Setting; Supporting Characters points to Title & Author; Title & Author points to Problem; Problem points to Solutions; and both Main Characters and Supporting Characters point to Problem.

Sequencing Events

The Sequencing Events graphic organizer features four rectangular boxes arranged in a 2x2 grid. Arrows connect the boxes in a clockwise sequence: top-left to top-right, top-right to bottom-right, bottom-right to bottom-left, and bottom-left to top-left.

Cause	Effect