

BOOK REVIEWS and BOOK TALKS

LESSON PLAN

Students were given graded readers to read during the summer holidays, mainly Victorian classics. In class students read and analyzed model book reviews and discussed how to write an interesting book review. They then had to write a review of the novel they had read. Following that, they were asked to present the book in a creative way (Book talks Ideas).

Book Talk Ideas . Be Creative!

1. Write a letter from one character to another character.
2. Write a sequel. One Paragraph.
3. Write a new conclusion.
4. With another student, do a pretend interview with the author or with one of the characters.
5. Cut out magazine pictures to make a collage or a poster illustrating the idea of the book.
6. Write a book review for a class publication.
7. Find a song or a poem that relates to the theme of your book. Explain the similarities.
8. Use a journalistic style and write a news story about something that happened to one of the characters.
9. Decide on an alternate title for the book. Why is it appropriate? Is it better than the one the book has now? Why or Why not?
10. Make a poster advertising your book.
11. Make a travel brochure inviting tourists to visit the setting of the book. What types of activities would there be for them to attend?
12. Write a letter to the main character of the book. Write the letter he or she sends back.
13. Write a detailed description of one of the main characters.
14. Prepare a list of 15 to 20 questions for use in determining if other people have read the book carefully.
15. Write a diary as the main character would write it to explain the events of the story. Must have at least 5 entries.
16. Make a map showing where the story took place.
17. Describe the problem or conflict existing for the main character in the book. Tell how the conflict was or was not resolved.
18. Find the top 10 web sites a character in your book would most frequently visit. Include 2-3 sentences for each on why your character likes each of the sites.
19. Write a scene that could have happened in the book you read but didn't. After you have written the scene, explain how it would have changed the outcome of the book.
20. Select one character from the book you read who has the qualities of a heroine or hero. List these qualities and tell why you think they are heroic.
21. Imagine that you are about to make a feature-length film of the novel you read. You have been instructed to select your cast from members of your English class. Cast all the major characters in your novel from your English classmates and tell why you selected each person for a given part.
22. Pretend that you are one of the characters in the book you read. Write a monologue of that character telling of his or her experiences. . Perform this "live" .
23. Make a time line of the major events in the book you read. Be sure the divisions on the time line reflect the time period in the plot. (Use drawings or magazine cutouts to illustrate events along the time line.) Present this to the class, taking us through time--event by event.
24. Choose an interesting character from your book. Consider the character's personality, likes and dislikes. Decide on a gift for him or her. . something he or she would really like and use. Design a greeting card to go along with your gift. In the greeting, explain to your friend from the book why you selected the gift.
25. Design a poster to advertise your book. Be creative. . . use detail. . .elaborate. . . use color!