

# CRITIQUING WRITING

## What is Critiquing?

Critiquing is a form of reviewing another person's writing with a focus on analysing the writing according to a framework.

## Story Structure

Opening	Rising Action	Climax	Falling Action	Resolution

The structure of the story is how the series of events are pulled together and come to a resolution that ends at a higher point than where the character started from (ie to show that the character has grown). This is a good first point to consider when critiquing another's writing.

## Critique Framework Questions

<b>Opening</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li> Could you see the point of view and the setting in the first few paragraphs?</li> <li> Did the opening make you want to read on?</li> <li> In your opinion how could the opening be improved?</li> </ul>
<b>Conflict</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li> Is there conflict in the piece? Is it physical or mental?</li> <li> In your opinion, does the conflict work? If not, how could it be improved?</li> </ul>
<b>Plot</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li> What did you find interesting about the plot?</li> <li> Did you find anything confusing about the plot? Why?</li> </ul>
<b>Setting</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li> Could you "see" where the story was taking place?</li> <li> Do you think the setting could be improved with more or less description?</li> </ul>
<b>Characters</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li> What did you think of the characters?</li> <li> Was there too many or too few characters?</li> <li> Did you feel they were living breathing characters?</li> <li> Was each character distinct or similar?</li> </ul>
<b>Dialogue</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li> What did you think of the dialogue?</li> <li> Did it feel real?</li> <li> Could you follow who was speaking?</li> <li> What did you think of the dialogue tags (eg said, shouted, exclaimed, whispered) used?</li> <li> Were there too many adverbs used with tags (eg whispered quietly)?</li> </ul>
<b>Point of View</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li> Was there one or many points of view?</li> <li> Could you tell whose point of view was being used?</li> <li> Was there any head hopping (when a character knows something that they haven't witnessed or been told about)?</li> </ul>
<b>Show v Tell</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li> Did the writer manage to balance of showing what is happening rather than telling the reader what is happening?</li> <li> Is there any place where you think using more or less description would improve the writing?</li> </ul>



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