

WRITING #4 – MRS. C'S ENGLISH

BOOK CLUB #1 – KIRKUS-STYLE REVIEW

FOCUS: BIAS, STEREOTYPE, CODESWITCHING, PROFANITY/LANGUAGE USE

Study the Kirkus Review of your (or any) book club choice.

Things to notice:

- The length – double-spaced these are about ¾ of a page
- In the spot of a title, they use the last line
- Start with one opening and straightforward sentence
- Write a full and detailed paragraph that provides some summary (without major spoilers) and some commentary or opinion
- If you use quotes w/in this paragraph, be sure to put them in quotation marks
- End with one powerful sentence that captures the essence of the book

1. You could consider the examples a pattern or template and mimic the reviewer's structure and style.
OR
2. Craft your own review in a style that suits you.
3. To tie your book club read with concepts from class, make sure you mention how the author addresses or includes any of the following:
 - Bias/stereotypes
 - Codeswitching
 - Profanity/language use
4. Use the yellow highlighter feature to highlight the spot(s) where you mention the class concepts from #3.
5. **MOST IMPORTANT: Your review needs to be YOURS!! Don't plagiarize.**

Tech Steps:

1. Open your Dropbox – and go to your DRAFTS folder.
2. Choose CREATE NEW FILE & start a new WORD document.
3. Write your review. Make it “good.” Reread it to be sure it makes sense.
4. Make sure it looks like a review.
5. Work on this writing in your drafts folder until you are satisfied that it says what you want to say.
6. Title the doc Yourlastname Writing 4 (not literally – replace that with YOUR last name)
7. To SUBMIT – move your appropriately named document to the your submissions folder (use the menu – 3 dots – button to choose move and then select the folder to move it to).
8. DO NOT share the document. I already have access to your folders so that is an unnecessary step.

REVIEW LINKS

<https://www.kirkusreviews.com/book-reviews/jason-reynolds/all-american-boys/>

<https://www.kirkusreviews.com/book-reviews/elizabeth-acevedo/with-the-fire-on-high/>

<https://www.kirkusreviews.com/book-reviews/tiffany-d-jackson/mondays-not-coming/>

<https://www.kirkusreviews.com/book-reviews/nicola-yoon/everything-everything/>

<https://www.kirkusreviews.com/book-reviews/angie-thomas/hate-u-give/>

<https://www.kirkusreviews.com/book-reviews/nic-stone/dear-martin/>