

Outside Reading Book (ORB) Critique Assignment

You have just read the book of your choice and will now create a google doc to write a critique article for an audience of your peers. These critiques will be categorized into a “magazine” that your classmates will be able to peruse to decide if they want to read the book for their next outside reading assignment. The criteria, a grading sheet, and a full credit example are listed below.

<p>First Section (Lead):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Use a catchy lead that uses 2nd person point of view (you) and addresses the future reader. Make him/her want to keep reading. <p>Second Section (Summary):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> SIOS (Summary in one sentence to introduce the rest of the details listed below) BRIEF Summary (choose THE most important details from each of the following:): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Include Exposition (background information, character descriptions, time period and location) • Rising Action (includes conflict) • Climax (turning point where character comes face to face with conflict) • Falling Action (results from climax) • Resolution (lesson learned) 	<p>Third Section (Critique):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Take a stance for or against the book. Explain two aspects of the book you enjoyed or disliked with EXPLANATIONS. Embed 1 quote from the book to enhance your opinion with an EXPLANATION. Connect or contrast an aspect of the book to another book or character, or to the world/society & EXPLAIN how it connects. <p>Fourth Section (Recommendation):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> State your recommendation of the book. Give two reasons why (that you have not stated before) you would/would not recommend. Consider author’s style, voice, vocabulary, humor, or topic in your reasons. Include reader audience who would or would not enjoy this book. End with a star rating (out of 5 stars).
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****Extra Credit:

- Add an image or your own illustration pertaining to the novel within your article.
- Add research about the author’s life, the time period, or topic and embed it into your article.

Grading Sheet: (use as a checklist)

Format followed: indented paragraphs, heading, level, star rating, columns	W	/10	
Catchy, unique title relating to critique. Not “Review of . . .”	W	/10	
Inviting Lead/Hook that addresses reader directly	W	/10	
SIOS: genre, text type, title, author, character, setting, conflict, theme, resolution	R	/10	
Events are relevant, brief, concise and lead reader logically through plot	R	/50	
Critique shows connection or contrast to another book or society & explains	R	/10	
Critique takes an overall stance on feelings about the book	W	/5	
Critique uses 2 examples of like or dislike with explanations	W	/20	
Critique uses 1 relevant quote to strengthen opinion with explanation	R	/10	
Identifies and explains one Author Craft (imagery, tone, POV, irony, etc.)	R	/10	
Recommendation includes reader audience	W	/5	
Recommendation includes 2 reasons with explanations	W	/10	
CPS (Capitalization, Punctuation, Spelling)	W	/10	
Grammar	W	/10	
Heightened vocabulary	R	/10	
Varied sentence structure & sentence beginnings	W	/10	
Total Points:	R	/100	W /100

Full Credit Example on Back of Page

Casting a Spell on Readers Every Witch Where By Tamera M.

As soon as you start reading *The Witch of Blackbird Pond*, you will be magically mesmerized. The confusion and tension among Kit and Hannah and the townspeople will make you feel the pressure inside the small colonial village where witch hunting is a part of life.



The historical fiction novel, *The Witch of Blackbird Pond*, by Elizabeth George Spear is about sixteen-year-old Kit Tyler in 1687 Connecticut who struggles for innocence, but learns she should fight for what she believes in through risking her reputation. The story unfolds when Kit arrives to live with her Aunt's family in Connecticut. She soon befriends a woman named Hannah Tupper. After a fever strikes the town, everyone begins to blame Hannah for it and accuses her of being a witch. Because of their friendship, Kit is also accused. The trial reveals more than guilt or innocence. There is a love story developing as well between Kit and Nat, a man she met on her journey to Connecticut. Kit learns that being

positive will pay off in more ways than one.

This book is a classic and you will enjoy every moment of it just as I did. One reason is that through her energetic characters, Elizabeth George Spear conveys messages that are still issues in today's society. People around the world still fear others that have a different religion than them and people are still persecuted for it or discriminated against because of it. Also, the author includes relatable personal life lessons as well about staying strong and never losing hope even in the midst of despair. On page 97, Kit states, "the answer is in thy heart, thee can always hear it if thee listens for it." This quote shows that even when Kit thinks things are unbearable, she can find a solution by looking within.

I would highly recommend this book because the author creates suspense and pulls you into the story. Also, the use of emotion makes you relate to the characters well. One aspect you will need to keep in mind is reading the old fashioned English words such as "twill" and "thy." Even though they aren't words we hear today, they are easily understood. It does help to make the characters real and put you in the time period. Overall, I thought that this book was thought-provoking, exciting, and romantic and I relished in reading it!

Star Rating 5/5 **