

## Review Writing: Basic Structures by Category

	Book	Movie	Restaurant	Video Game	Places to visit	Food Product
Background Info	Title Author Genre Brief summary	Title Type of movie Rating Actors/ actresses	Name Location Type of food	Name Type Rating System to play on Object of the game	Name Location Type	Type Manufacturer
Evidence to use to support your opinion	Characters Setting Plot Illustrations Author's message or theme Best audience	Acting storyline Special effects Best audience for the movie	Taste and quality of food How the restaurant looks Service Price Best audience	Graphics Difficulty Levels Ease of directions Best audience	Appearance Activities Best for what kinds of visitors	Taste Nutrition Price Appearance

<b>Review Writing Planning Form</b>	
Review of: _____	
Reviewer: _____	
Date: _____	
<b>Picture or graphic to highlight</b>	
<b>Background information and opinion</b>	
<b>Reasons</b>	
<b>Audience I recommend for this</b>	

## Example of Book Reviews 3-5

# Hunger Games

Written by Suzanne Collins  
Reviewed by Kenny P. (age 14)



Can you think how you would feel if your little sister was chosen and forced to participate in a game that losing meant death? Well, you would probably feel the same way as Katniss Everdeen did when her little sister was chosen for the annual Hunger Games. Then Katniss, as any other sibling in that situation would do, stepped up and took her sister's place as the girl "tribute" in the Hunger Games. The tributes from each district were pitted against each other in games where the task was to kill the other tribute. What will become of Katniss?

I love this book because I love science fiction books. This book is part of a series and is being made into a movie, scheduled for release sometime in spring 2012. This is like no other book I've read because the author is daring enough to make one of the main themes about government control in people's lives. I don't have a favorite part of the book because I liked it all.

I would definitely recommend this book because it is an awesome Sci-Fi book. I would suggest that readers be at least in the middle school range. I think the plot, the characters, and the setting would interest readers and lovers of Science Fiction!

[Kenny P.](#) is a student in [Ms. James' 8th Grade Class 2010-2011](#)  
**Spaghetti® Book Club**  
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[http://www.spaghettibookclub.org/review.php?review\\_id=11929](http://www.spaghettibookclub.org/review.php?review_id=11929)

Other resources for writing reviews

**Common Sense Media:** <http://www.common sense media.org/>

This website has reviews and a rating system for books, video games, movies, TV shows and more. Most are written by adults, but some short pieces are written by students.

**Cyber Kids :** <http://www.cyberkids.com>

This website houses reviews for movies, books, software, toys and video games, some written by students.

**Kids First:** <http://www.kidsfirst.org>

This website houses movie reviews written by students that are viewable via UTube. Really adorable footage. If you able to show them at school they would be very engaging for students.



Opinion/Argument



# Night Writing

## Grade 2-5 Writing Homework

Opinion Writing

Business Letter



Name \_\_\_\_\_

week of \_\_\_\_\_

### Directions

In this writing task, you will write a **business letter**.

You are going to write a letter to the company that makes one of your things: **a hand game**, a **video game**, a **TV program**, or **movie**. If you write a great letter, they might send you a free sample or something else! On Monday night, go through your room and find one of these things. Try to find the name of the company that makes the item, book, or movie, and their address. Many boxes and packages list the name of the company and the city and zip code where it is located. This week you will write and mail a letter to the company, telling them why you love their product so much.

### Scoring

Your writing will be scored on how well you:

- Include the elements of a letter: date, salutation, body, closing, and signature;
- Clearly explain the purpose of your letter;
- Show awareness of the audience of your letter; and
- Use correct grammar, spelling, punctuation, and capitalization.

- Monday** you will plan your letter with the graphic organizer,
- Tuesday** you will write your first draft,
- Wednesday** you will revise your writing, and
- Thursday** you will edit and write your final draft.
- Friday** your final draft is due.

## Monday Homework: Plan Your Letter

### To whom are you writing?

Include ALL the information you can find: name of the company, address, city, state, zip code, and website. Ask an adult to help you find the address if it's not on the box or package.

### What item did you choose? Describe it.

### Why do you love this item so much?

**Tuesday Homework: Write the First Draft of Your Letter:**

Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Your Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Your City, State, Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Name and address of person and/or company you are writing to:**

\_\_\_\_\_ **Company Name**

\_\_\_\_\_ **Name of Person at the Company** (or Marketing Department)

\_\_\_\_\_ **Company's Address**

\_\_\_\_\_ **Company's City, State, Zip Code**

**GREETING** (Dear Mr./Ms. \_\_\_\_\_, Dear Sir or Madam, To Whom it May Concern...)

\_\_\_\_\_

**BODY: Paragraph 1** (I am writing to tell you about my favorite \_\_\_\_\_, I am writing because I love (name of item)..... Tell them what item they make that you love.)

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Paragraph 2** (Tell why you love the item so much.)

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**CLOSURE** (Sincerely or Very truly yours,)

\_\_\_\_\_

**SIGNATURE** \_\_\_\_\_

## Wednesday Homework: Revising

Re-read the letter you wrote yesterday to make sure that you are using **formal English**. Remember, you are writing to a businessperson who has never met you, so you want to sound serious in your letter, and you want him or her to take your comments seriously.

Then re-read one more time to see if you can **add more details** about why you love the item you chose. If you can write a really convincing letter, the company might decide to send you a free sample!

Write your examples of more details you can add here. Number them, and then add the number in a circle, like this ① to your draft where the details should be added.

**New details I will add:**

① \_\_\_\_\_

② \_\_\_\_\_

③ \_\_\_\_\_

④ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_








\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_








# Thursday Homework: Editing and Publishing

Today you will edit and publish your letter. Re-read your writing to decide if you deserve a star in each box below. Add or change anything you need to in order to make your narrative **6 Star Writing!** Color in the stars for the things you think you accomplished!

## Grades 2-3

 <b>OPINION</b> State your opinion.    <b>REASONS</b> that support your opinion	 <b>Parts of a Letter</b> All parts are in their correct place <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Date</li> <li>• Greeting/ salutation</li> <li>• Body</li> <li>• Closing</li> </ul> Signature	 <b>End Punctuation</b> . ? ! <b>Commas</b> in dates and between single words in a series , Quotation marks around what people said ""	 <b>Capitals <i>only</i> where they go</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Beginning of a sentence</li> <li>• Names</li> <li>• Months</li> <li>• Days of the week</li> <li>• Holidays</li> <li>• Titles</li> </ul>	 <b>Spelling</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All word wall words</li> <li>• Harder words spelled using the sound cards and/or attempted spelling</li> <li>• Check the dictionary</li> </ul>	 <b>Paper is Neat</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Good handwriting</li> <li>• No smudges</li> <li>• Spaces between all words</li> </ul>
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## Grades 4-5

 <b>OPINION</b> State your opinion.    <b>REASONS</b> that support your opinion... in logical sequence	 <b>Parts of a Letter</b> All parts are in their correct place <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Date</li> <li>• Greeting/ salutation</li> <li>• Body</li> <li>• Closing</li> <li>• Signature</li> </ul>	 <b>End Punctuation</b> . ? ! <b>Commas</b> in dates and between single words in a series , Quotation marks around what people said or quotes from text. ""	 <b>Capitals <i>only</i> where they go</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Beginning of a sentence</li> <li>• Proper names</li> <li>• Dates</li> <li>• Holidays</li> <li>• Titles</li> <li>• Geographic names</li> </ul>	 <b>Spelling</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All word wall words</li> <li>• Harder words spelled using attempted spelling</li> <li>• Check the dictionary</li> </ul>	 <b>Paper is Neat</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Good handwriting</li> <li>• No smudges</li> <li>• Spaces between all words</li> </ul>
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Now you are ready to publish. Copy your letter onto a separate piece of writing paper. You can use stationary if you'd like. You also need to address an envelope so you can mail your letter.

Make sure your final copy is neat, and re-read it one last time to make sure you didn't make any mistakes when you were copying.

**Friday: your final draft is due**