

# How to Make Review Writing

## Abstract

Review-writing has always been considered very important from the academic enhancement point of view. Reviews of literature provide a feedback to the research scholars in particular in addition to others. To the research scholars, reviews serve as the foundation but for which research cannot be planned. It is only the reviews of literature made by the various scholars that the researcher can decide from which point he is to start his research; what aspects have already been studied and what aspects of a subject are still unexplored.

It is not only the literature but also the movies and several other things that are reviewed. All the reviews are worthy as they prepare the readers to accept or reject the things referred to in the reviews. Every review made on any aspect and in any form requires critical analysis. Review writing is not an easy task. It requires certain specific qualifications and abilities on the part of the review writer.

The paper covers the various aspects of how to write a review, such as, what to be included and excluded, how to begin and conclude a review, the approach of the review writer and the features of a model review.

**Keywords:** Review, Book Review, Text Review, Film Review, Literary Background, Feedack, Exploration, Specific Qualifications.

## Introduction

In the modern age which provides an ample scope for research in every field, review writing is very important. Book reviews, text reviews and film reviews are some of the popular forms of review. The book reviews are focussed on the theme, subject matter, development of thought, binding, printing, price etc.; the text reviews are focussed on the subject and theme, vocabulary in the given text, grammatical syntax, development of the thought, use of facts in the text etc., while the film reviews deal with the subject of the film, dialogues, characters, choreography, singing, stage-craft and the impact of the film for the review. Day-by-day the scope of review writing is getting wider and wider. At present, even the hotels, restaurants, temples, trains, buses, cities and many other things. Indeed, every form of review whether on books, texts, films, hotels, trains, buses, cities, etc., is important and requires specific qualification on the part of the review writer so that he may be able to catch up the spirit of the subject concerned successfully.

The current trend is of online reviews. Every day thousands of reviews on a subject or theme in every field are made on line to the perusal of the readers. It will not be wrong to say that the online reviews lack in the spirit of review writing. Most of them are found irrelevant with several weaknesses of their own. They are not found to the point, and are often full of drawbacks. For it there is no government policy. In order to check such reviews being online there should be some specified guideline that allows only the genuine reviews to be online.

Generally it is found that the review writers are not serious while writing reviews. They exclude several relevant things associated with the subject and include several unnecessary and irrelevant things. It spoils the spirit of review. The principle of review writing says that in the review only relevant things should be included and all the irrelevant things should be excluded. Moreover, the language of the review should be to the point and unnecessary things should be avoided for the sake of a balanced review. The process of reviewing the literature and writing a literature review can be complicated and lengthy. It is helpful to bring a system of organization and planning to the task. When an orderly system can be designed, it is easier to keep track of the articles, books, materials read, notes, outlines and drafts.

## Review of Literature

Cooper, Harris M. (1998). A literature review is a text of a scholarly paper, which includes the current knowledge including

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substantive findings, as well as theoretical and methodological contributions to a particular topic. Literature reviews are secondary sources, and do not report new or original experimental work. Most often associated with academic-oriented literature, such reviews are found in academic journals, and are not to be confused with book reviews that may also appear in the same publication. Literature reviews are a basis for research in nearly every academic field.

*Creswell, John W. (2013).* Producing a literature review may also be part of graduate and post-graduate student work, including in the preparation of a thesis, dissertation, or a journal article. Literature reviews are also common in a research proposal or prospectus (the document that is approved before a student formally begins a dissertation or thesis).

*Dellinger, Amy B. (2005).* The main types of literature reviews are: evaluative, exploratory, and instrumental.

*Dellinger, Amy B.; Leech, Nancy L. (2007).* A fourth type, the systematic review, is often classified separately, but is essentially a literature review focused on a research question, trying to identify, appraise, select and synthesize all high-quality research evidence and arguments relevant to that question. A meta-analysis is typically a systematic review using statistical methods to effectively combine the data used on all selected studies to produce a more reliable result.

*Galvan, José L. (2015).* Shields and Rangarajan (2013) distinguish between the process of reviewing the literature and a finished work or product known as a literature review.<sup>[5]</sup>

*Green, Bart N.; Johnson, Claire D.; Adams, Alan (2006).* The process of reviewing the literature requires different kinds of activities and ways of thinking.

*Hart, Chris (2008).* Shields and Rangarajan (2013) and Granello (2001) link the activities of doing a literature review with Benjamin Bloom's revised taxonomy of the cognitive domain (ways of thinking: remembering, understanding, applying, analyzing, evaluating, and creating).

#### **Objectives of The Study**

1. To study the various ways of how to write a legitimate reviews
2. To have an idea about the various types of reviews
3. To highlight the need and importance of the reviews in the various fields
4. To find out the causes and effects of the reviews
5. To be familiar with the contemporary trends of review writing
6. To learn about the people the reviews are meant for
7. To analyse the approaches of the review makers
8. To suggest the various tips to the review writers while making reviews
9. To focus the various fields of review writing
10. To study the expectations of the readers from the review writers
11. To point out the salient features of the model text and book reviews

12. To explore the weaknesses in the modern reviews

#### **Hypothesis**

1. Review writing is an art which requires certain specific skills on the part of the review maker
2. With the passage of time, the scope of review writing is getting wider day-by-day
3. Reviews are not confined only to literature, that is, only to books or text
4. Reviews are made on the cities, travels, temples, hotels, schools and colleges etc.
5. Most of the reviews are not legitimate as they have several drawbacks
6. These days the online reviews about all the things and literature are popular
7. Most of the review writers are not serious while making reviews

#### **Tips of Review-Writing to Be Kept in Mind**

While writing a review the reviewer should be careful enough to prepare a balanced review covering in brief all the major and relevant aspects of the theme he aims at reviewing. The following tips are suggested to the review writer-

#### **Inclusion of Relevant Details & Omission of Extraneous Details**

The expectation of every reader of the reviews from the review writer is to supply only relevant facts and not to supply anything that is irrelevant and meaningless. The review maker should make sure that he is going to include things like the date he went to a restaurant or shop, when he placed an order or opened his product, whom he ordered through if it wasn't the site he was writing the review on, and of course, lay out his experience with relevant information to his complaint or compliment. If the review writer had a tough time getting service at a restaurant, other readers will want to know what time of day he went, whether the restaurant was crowded, and whether the staff ignored him outright, or something specific was the root of his issue. While writing the book review or text review, the review maker needs to be more careful. He is expected to supply the exact figurative details of the things (if figures are possible) including the details of the author, contents, vocabulary, relevance of the book, development of thought etc.

#### **Not Targeted on Any Specific Name**

One of the biggest criticisms of online reviews is that too many of them are vindictive and targeted at specific individuals instead of addressing an actual complaint or issue. It can be tempting to praise a specific server at a restaurant by telling everyone on Yelp who they are, or to blast an apartment manager on Apartment Ratings by telling others to "look out for so-and-so," but ultimately it makes review less useful, even if it's more bombastic. If the server is promoted to manager, or if the apartment manager was only filling in for a week, the review is already worthless and outdated. A genuine review is one which has the review writer's own experiences. The book review or text review in particular should not be targeted on any author.

**The Review Should Be Good And Useful**

The review writer should remember that a "good" review is the type of review that is useful to those who are supposed to go through it. A good is said to be good and legitimate when it has a balanced organization of the reviewer's thoughts, his experiences, his scholastic wisdom, positive approach, correct spellings and grammar, completion of sentences in it. In fact, everything should be intelligently, coherently, and honestly. The reviewer should be from all the prejudices and prior certitudes. He should not forget that his task as a review writer is to explore the spirit of the subject he is going to review. It is possible only when he does all this without any prejudice. However, the reviewer should be judicious enough to point out and highlight both the positive and the negative aspects in a balanced way.

**Self-Validation of The Reviewer**

While writing the review, the reviewer should write in a way that it stands for self validation of the reviewer. The review should be made in a way that there is no way for the readers to doubt what has been said by the reviewer. In the matter of the literary text reviews or the book reviews, the reviewer should comment in a way that they serve as the statements of self validation leaving no doubt to be made by the readers.

**Experience of The Reviewer**

The reviewer should make it clear that the contents of the review are what happened to him, and that other people's experiences may vary, even if his experiences were particularly positive. He should clearly point out why he thinks he may have had his specific experience—perhaps his meal was late because of what he ordered? Or maybe a hotel upgraded him to a suite because he approached them with kindness. The same is true of the reviews relating to literature. The reviewer should share his own experience of reading certain book or text. In addition to the comments about the structure of the text or book, there should be the reviewer's experience of reading the text or book.

**Coverage of All the Major Aspects**

Finally, the review maker should remember that there's another side to his story. Positive reviews almost never get challenged, but they are also most often ignored by future readers. Negative reviews draw the most attention, and while most people are smart enough to look over all reviews and omit the ones that are strange, particularly useless, or irrelevant to them, even negative reviews can be useful if the reviewer addresses why he thinks his experience unfolded the way it did, by putting himself on the other side of the issue. Sometimes there's no excuse for poor treatment, bad service or a horrific experience, but if he can show a little understanding, it goes a long way towards validating his review as an honest one—even if a future reader still decides to steer clear of the place.

**Brevity**

Obviously, the review does not have to be as lengthy with the reviewer's impressions and he can feel free to cut to the chase, but the important thing is to make sure he include the information that's relevant to his story, keep his perspective in check, and be honest. It's the best way to make sure his reviews are useful, influential, and timeless.

**Conclusion**

Reviews have a long history of their own. Literally, the reviews were made on literature, and particularly on books. With the passage of time, the review writing became more and more popular as the reviews prepare the people accept or reject the things. Book reviews, text reviews and film reviews are some of the popular forms of reviews. Now the reviews are not confined only to books, texts or films. Reviews are made on the things experienced by the people during their visits, journeys etc. A legitimate review is one which is full of the reviewer's own experiences, and which has a balanced organization of his thoughts. A legitimate literary review is always to the point with the coverage of all the major aspects, like, the structure and body of the text or piece of literature, development of thought, positive features and negative features of the piece of text, grammatical and syntactical features etc.

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