**Accelerated Reader Book**

**Review of a Novel**

Each of you checked out an Accelerated Reader book from the library before school was closed. In this lesson, you will write a review of the book you checked out. A novel review is your personal interpretation of a book you are reading or have read. A book review is a thorough description and/or evaluation of the quality, meaning, and significance of a book you have read.

**The Literary Elements of a Book Review: (40 points)**

1. **Characters** are the individuals in the story. They may be people, animals, or things. Are the characters believable? What techniques does the author use to make the characters seem real?
2. **Setting** is where or when a story takes place. It may be a location, time, or imaginary place. Is the setting believable? Is the setting important to the plot and the conflict?
3. **Plot i**s what happens in the story. The plot centers on a conflict or problem that must be resolved. It is a series of events that often have a cause-and-effect relationship. Does the plot seem possible? Does it include at least one surprise? What techniques does the writers use to keep your interest as the story develops?
4. **Theme** is the main idea- the writer’s idea or message about the character of the story. Identify the theme. What effect or impact does the author have on the readers?

**Review of A Novel (100 points)**

**Introduction:**

1. **Attention Grabber:**
2. Start with a surprising incident, idea, or quote from the story.
3. Analogy – Compare a character to people you know or relate an event from the novel to a common experience.
4. Opinions from authority - Use a quota from the story.
5. Tell an anecdote – a short story from the book
6. **Introduce the author and title of the book.**
7. **Write a brief summary of the characters, setting and plot.**
8. **Theme/Thesis:**

 Choose the most important elements to write in a sentence or two.

 What is the moral of the story? What did you learn?

**Body Paragraph:**

1. The body paragraphs should deal with the literary elements; characters, setting and plot.
2. Direct description – Sensory details
3. What did the character’s see?
4. What did they hear?
5. What did they smell?
6. What did they taste?
7. Supporting detail
8. A character’s thoughts.
9. Action - Activities that advance the plot or that demonstrate an important personality trait of a character.
10. Dialogue: The words and thoughts of the characters. These may advance the plot or reveal something important about the novel or character.
11. Transitional sentences – ends one paragraph and begins another

**Conclusion:**

1. Restate thesis/theme
2. State what effect or impact the novel had on you.
3. Recommendation - After you evaluate the elements of a novel, you will make an overall judgment based on your evaluation. Draw conclusion about the novel by looking at the literacy elements and writing techniques, then draw conclusion on whether the book is a good read or not.

**YOU NEED TO TAKE YOUR ACCELERATED READER TEST BEFORE MAY 1.**