**Review of a Novel Description**

**Introduction**:

* Attention Grabber
* Title, author, and summary

-To summarize a lengthy work like a novel you must compress your insights into the elements of the novel-character, setting, plot, and theme-into a brief interpretation.

* Thesis statement:
  + For a Review of a Novel:
  + Topic (name of your novel with author)
  + Conclusion (opinion) S.E. Hinton’s *The Outsiders* is an unforgettable and realistic novel about violence and tolerance.
  + Reasons for Conclusion: The characters are very believable and interesting; the plot is exciting and realistic; the themes are true for people anywhere, anytime; the novel stirs up a reader’s emotions.
  + **Thesis Statement Example**: A cast of great characters, an exciting plot, and strong universal themes make S.E. Hinton’s *The Outsiders* an important, touching, and unforgettable novel.
  + **Topic plus your opinion with reason(s)**

**Main Body** (One to three paragraphs)   
-Use one to three of the literary elements in your essay

-You must use parenthetical citations (See examples below)

1. One critic complains of the authors, “They’re sheep in wolves’ clothing who manage to write about bad things and make you feel good” (Bukiet 35).

[Note that both the author and page number are cited in parentheses.]

2. Anna Funder explains that the Stasi “was a bureaucracy metastasized through East German society” (5).

[Because the author’s name is given in the sentence, only the page number is cited in parentheses. Quotations must be presented exactly as they appear in the original text.

1. Plot: a chain of events, seems natural and possible but also includes some surprise

2. Characters: are believable; include their actions and motivations

3. Setting: believable that does not distract from main idea

4. Theme: or message; gives the reader a clear understanding of some part of life

**Drawing a Conclusion:**

* Conclusion is not just the ending to a movie or novel it is also your overall judgment based upon your evaluation.
* You draw conclusions about a novel as you look at the elements and the writer’s techniques, or methods, of developing them
  + Simile, Metaphor, Alliteration, Assonance, Personification, Onomatopoeia, Hyperbole, Plot twist…

**Types of Supporting Details:**

* Description: sensory details, often in the form of quotation, about the setting or a character’s appearance, action, motivation, or details from a character’s thoughts and feelings.
* Action: details about activities that advance the plot or demonstrate an important personality trait of main character.
* Dialogue: Words and thoughts of a character that help advance the plot and reveal something important about a character.
* You can also use sources other than the novel such as:
* Analogies from your own personal experiences or knowledge. For example, compare the characters to yourself or someone you know.
* Expert opinions: from authors, a book review, famous people of authority.
* Compare or contrast: compare or contrast your book to another book you have read, or a song, movie, or TV show.

**Conclusion:**

* Restate thesis
* Effect of novel on reader
* Recommendation
* Brief summary