Extra Credit!

Reading 115 & Writing 115
Mary Kelly-Klein, Instructor
Mt. Hood Community College
Write a Review!

- Book Review
- Live Music
- Movies
- Live Plays
- Museum Exhibits
- Art Shows & Gallery Exhibits
- Recreation & Outdoor Adventures
- You propose something to review!
What is a REVIEW?

- Review = re- (a prefix meaning to do again, as in repeat) + view (meaning to look at).
- Review 1441, from M.Fr. reveue "a reviewing, review," prop. Fem. Pp. Of reveeir "to see again, go to see again," from L. revidere, from re- "again" + videre "to see" (see vision). The verb is recorded from 1576. Meaning "general account or criticism of a recent literary work" is first attested 1649. [www.etymonline.com](http://www.etymonline.com)
- Add to the above definition: movies, plays, musical performances, products, and almost anything you can think of.
How do I write a review?

• Good question! There are no firm rules on how to write a review, but in general, the reviewer must be familiar with the performance, material, etc. being reviewed.
• Select several features of the film, book, exhibit, performance, etc. that you found to be interesting, very good or exceptional, very bad or horrid, or otherwise remarkable.
• Your review should discuss the above features.
Anything else?

- Yes, you will want to provide a setting and any other information necessary for your reader to make sense of your review. Assume your reader knows little or nothing about your subject matter!
- A good way to learn what should be included in a review is to read a raft of them, and by reviews, I do not mean the little snippets included in movie or concert guides in the newspaper.
- See me or your friendly MHCC Librarian for help in finding written reviews.
BOOK REVIEW

- Book reviews require collaboration with your instructor!
- Share your proposed book title with your instructor, and if possible, bring a copy with you when you confer with her.
- You and your instructor will review criteria appropriate for your title!
LIVE MUSIC: CONCERTS!

• Go to a concert, either by yourself or with family and friends.
• Write a review for 50 points.
• Go with someone else for another 10 points.
What needs to be in a CONCERT review?

- Genre: Rock, jazz, classical, country, you get the picture.
- The performers: Provide some information about their training, musical experience, and if you think it is interesting, personal lives.
- The venue: Where did you see the concert? Did you go by yourself, or did you go with friends/family?
- The audience: What was it like?
- The reviews: Please read, summarize, and attach at least one review from a newspaper, other publication, or on-line.
- Your own review: What did you think of the performance and why? How did your reaction differ or support those of the reviews you read?
MOVIES!

• Go to a movie, the more controversial the better, and write a summary and a review.
  – **50** points.
  – Extra credit (**10** points!) if you go with someone else.
  – NOTE: During the month of February, a series of engaging films about African-American history and the Civil Rights Movement will be shown on Thursday evenings. Grab a friend and go!

http://www.mhcc.edu/pages/101.asp?item=544
What should MOVIE reviews include?

- **Director:** Who directed the movie, and at least one other film directed by the same director.
- **Screenplay writer:** Who wrote the screenplay, and at least one other piece of information about other works by this writer.
- **Setting:** Time & place.
- **Major characters:** Provide a thumbnail sketch of each (appositives work well here).
- **Plot summary:** Make sure you provide a spoiler warning if you reveal the end of a suspenseful movie.
• Provide a *reaction response* to the film. How did the movie hit you in the gut? How did the audience react? If you went with anyone else, what features of the film produced the most conversation afterwards?

• Read and attach at least one, and preferably two, reviews of the movie.

• In addition to the features of the film outlined on the previous slide, you should state where you agree and disagree with the reviews, and why so.

• If you go with someone else, extra credit (10 points!) Ask me why this is important!
LIVE PLAYS!

• Go to see a live play, write a summary and a review.
  - **50** points.
  - **25** points extra if you read a copy of the play, either before or after you have seen it. Ask me or the librarian about how you can obtain a copy.
  - And another **10** points extra credit for going with someone else.
What should be in a review of a LIVE PLAY?

Ah yes, real plays, live!

- Type of play: Drama, comedy, tragicomedy, melodrama, too weird to classify (say why).
- Setting: Time and place the action in the play was supposed to take place.
- Venue: Where did you see the play? And did you see it by yourself or did you see it with family/friends?
• The characters: Provide the names of the characters, a thumbnail sketch of each (appositives work nicely here), and their relation to one another.
• The plot: Provide a summary of the plot. Spoiler warnings are always appreciated.
• The reactions: How did you react to the play? How did the audience react? If you attended the play with others, how did they react? What parts/features of the play did you discuss afterwards?
• The reviews: Read, summarize, and attach at least one review. Present your review, and when you do, state how your review agrees or disagrees with the review you read, and tell why.
MUSEUM EXHIBITS!

- Attend a museum exhibit by yourself or with family & friends.
- Write up a summary and a review for 50 points.
- Go with someone else for an additional 10 points.
What needs to be in a Museum Exhibit review?

- What museum did you visit and what exhibit did you review?
- **Description:**
  - Describe what was included in the exhibit.
  - Describe unique or salient features of the exhibit.
  - Describe the nature of the exhibit—how and in what way was it hands-on or interactive (if it was interactive at all). Did you participate?
- **Curator/Creator:** State who created or put together the exhibit; present information about why the exhibit was put together.
• The reactions:
  – How did you react to the exhibit? How did other museum goers react?
  – If you went with someone else, what features did you discuss with others?

• The reviews:
  – Read, summarize, and attach at least one review.
  – Write your own review, and when you do, state where you agree or disagree with the published reviews, and why.
ART SHOWS & GALLERY EXHIBITS!

- Attend one of the many art, photography, and craft shows,
- Or visit an art gallery or attend an arts event (First Thursday, Last Tuesday, etc.)
- Write a summary and a review for 50 points.
- Go with someone else for an extra 10 points.
ART SHOWS & GALLERY REVIEWS

• What show did you see?
• What type of art/craft was represented? (sculpture, photography, painting, pottery, etc.)
• If you are reviewing the work of a particular artist or craftsperson, name the person and present a thumbnail biography.
• The setting: Where & when was the show? If the show was sponsored, who sponsored it?
• Were any of the exhibits interactive or hands-on? If so, did you participate?
• The reactions:
  – Yours. What was your reaction to the exhibit?
  – Other attendees. What kinds of reactions did you observe among other attendees? Details, details!
  – If you attended with someone else, what features of the exhibit did you talk about afterwards?
BALLET & DANCE EVENTS!

- Attend a ballet or live dance performance.
- Write a summary and review for 50 points.
- Go with someone else for an extra 10 points.
BALLET & DANCE REVIEWS

Live Dance!

- Type of dance: Ballet, modern jazz, salsa, too weird to classify (say why).
- Summary of the action: Many ballets and other dances tell a story, celebrate a tradition, or express a deep emotion.
- Venue: Where did you see the performance? And did you see it by yourself or did you see it with family/friends?
Ballet & Dance Reviews, continued

• Summary of other review(s): Read and summarize a review of this event or a similar one in the newspaper, in another publication, or on-line. Attach the review.

• The reactions:
  – Yours. What was your reaction to the performance?
  – The audience. What kinds of reactions did you observe among the audience members?
  – If you attended with someone else, what features of the exhibit did you talk about afterwards?
RECREATION & OUTDOOR ADVENTURES!

- Go on a hike, backpack, kayak, windsurf, sailboard – and lots of other active outdoor activities.
  - Write a summary and a review for 50 cool points.
  - Go with someone else for an extra 10 points.
Recreation Reviews

- Describe the outdoor activity or activities: Hiking, biking, backpacking, kayaking, canoeing, and, well, you name it!
- Describe the geographic setting and ecology of the area.
- Reaction: What is your reaction to the activity? If you went with another person(s), what was his/her/their reaction?
- Read a review or a guidebook, summarize it, attach the review, and write a review for **50** points.
- Do the activity with someone else: **10** more points.
- See Mary for specific guidelines!
What other ideas do you have?

- I am quite willing to work with you to help you obtain credit for community service, service learning, and other projects that you might want to submit for extra-credit.
- All extra-credit work must include three major features in order to meet my guidelines: an experiential component, a reading component, and a writing component.
- I also expect you to submit your best work, and hence your work should be typed, double-spaced, and carefully proofread.