





facultad de estudios generales

# **The Written Review**

## Important



At the end of this presentation there is a link to a Microsoft Forms quiz. It is recommended that you score an 80% or higher.

Please take your time reviewing and studying this material before you proceed with the quiz.

## **Objectives**



- Explain the process involved in writing a review.
- Discuss the features of the review.
- Identify the specific structure of the review.
- Provide tools to write a review.



## What is a review?

# What can we review?

For what?

## **Definition:**



#### A review is:

• "A critical article or report, as in a periodical, on a book, play, recital, or the like; critique; evaluation." (dictionary.com).

 "The review is a brief writing piece that informs and at the same time gives value to a work or a cultural product; its fundamental characteristic lies in describing and issuing an <u>evaluative judgment</u> [...]" (Emphasis added) (Arenas, et al. 2)

## **Associated terms:**

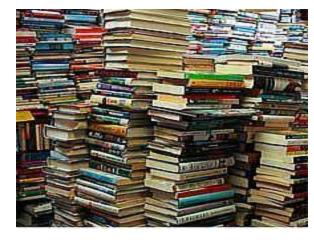


- <u>Subjective</u> "Belonging or relative to the subject's way of thinking or feeling, and not to the object itself".
- Objective "Belonging or relating to the object itself, regardless of one's way of thinking or feeling."
- <u>Criticism</u> "Judgment expressed, generally publicly, about a show, an artistic work, etc."
- <u>Value</u> "Recognizement, estimation, or appreciation of the value or merit of someone or something."

. We can review any text or practice with <u>cultural value</u> (including popular culture).



#### •A review is **not** a summary.













## The review's structure



Recommended amount of paragraphs:

- 1. Introduction (1)
- 2. Description and pertinence (1
- 3. Crítica y juicio
- 4. Conclusión

(1)(3)

(1)



**1** The Introduction:



### It locates the reader in time and space

- Title
- Author or person in charge of making it happen
- Date and place
- Make it clear of what is being reviewed (literary genre, medium by which it is expressed, type of work, etc.)
- Basic context/background information

#### **2- Description and pertinence**



. Purpose

. How pertinent is it?

. Main topic

 Connect with concepts or topics discussed in class

- . Central issue or message
- Connect with current concepts or topics (suggestion).

## **3- Criticism and judgement**



- . Support arguments
- . Focus on elements
- . Analyze:
  - Point of view (narrative voice)
  - Title (relationship of the title with the text or with its reception)
  - •Foreword or introduction (is it effective?)
  - -Structure (form/background o content)
  - Style (what language or type is used?, how is this language presented or handled?)

# **3- Criticism and judgement** (continued)

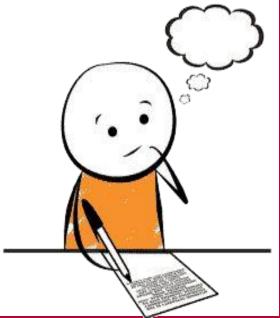


- Topic (what themes are included in the text?, how are they presented? which is the main one, and which are the secondary ones?)
- Finale (how does it relate to the rest of the text, its context, or the other contexts?)
- Literary artifice(does it contain rhetorical figures?, are there other genres incorporated into the text? are there ambiguities or references?)
- Direct criticism (how can the text be interpreted?, is it contradictory?, is the text itself a criticism of someone or something?)

### **4- Conclusion**



- . It is a general comment, as a brief recapitulation.
- . It implies closure.
- The bibliographic information of the text to which you refer to is included on a separate page.
- . Use the required format (MLA, APA, etc.).



# What should we do while reading (or viewing) the text to be reviewed?



- "Read the book or article, taking notes in the margins" (Abramovich and Navarro 44).
- . Identify concepts and premises that are of importance in the text. Also, think about *how* or *why* they are important.
- . "Try to identify weak points, contradictions, omissions and errors in the text" (Abramovich y Navarro 44).
- Determine what contributions the text makes to what was discussed in class.
- . Do contextual research on the text.

## **Before writing**



We must outline the content according to the following:

- the structure of the review
- the information one has about the text
- what we want to say about it

### While writing the review, we must:



- "Pay close attention to clearly distinguish the voice of the author and the characters on the one hand, and the voice of the reviewer on the other." (Abramovich y Navarro 44).
- Include evidence from the text (citation and examples) to support what is said in the review.
- Make sure you include all the information from the text and its author, and do not include superfluous information or only summarize the text.
- . Write a draft (or several) and double-check it until the final version is ready to be delivered.





#### Essential criteria that must be included in a written review:

- 1. The review should have a clear structure (header, title, introduction, body, and closing).
- 2. The heading should break down the basic elements: the author's name and the text, publisher, and year of publication.
- 3. The arguments raised should be valid and effective.
- 4. Sources and citations used should be expressed in their proper format (MLA or APA).



- 5. The review should have a coherent development.
- 6. Bibliographical information about the author should be included.
- 7. There should be correct use of punctuation marks and connectors.
- 8. Verify that there are no semantic inaccuracies or misspellings.

# Bibliography



Abramovich, Ana Luz y Federico Navarro. "La reseña académica". Departamento de Ciencias de la Computación, Universidad de Chile, S.f.: <u>http://users.dcc.uchile.cl/~cgutierr/cursos/INV/navarro-resena.pdf.</u> Visitado el 21 Sep. 2016.

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After completing the module, click on the following link to take the quiz and send the report to your professor:

### https://forms.office.com/r/1ySrkJ4nr0

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