

Your Name \_\_\_\_\_ Period \_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

You are a lawyer in a courtroom where the book you have read is on trial. You have to **present the facts** about the book and **develop an argument** to support your evaluation. Complete this outline and use the information to write your formal review in the form of an argumentative essay.

Due date: \_\_\_\_\_

### Book Review: Putting a Book on Trial

Title of Book: \_\_\_\_\_ © year \_\_\_\_\_

Author(s): \_\_\_\_\_ Number of Pages: \_\_\_\_\_

Who is the intended audience of this book? \_\_\_\_\_

What is the main issue or problem the book addresses? \_\_\_\_\_

---

Setting: How do time and place contribute to the story? (Could the story take place in a different setting?)

---

Protagonist(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Antagonist(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Plot Summary: Tell the story by filling in the blanks with carefully chosen words and phrases.

\_\_\_\_\_ wanted \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_, but \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_, so \_\_\_\_\_.

---

List two (2) author-and-me questions that apply to your understanding of the book. Answer them completely.

Question #1: \_\_\_\_\_

Answer #1: \_\_\_\_\_

Question #2: \_\_\_\_\_

Answer #2: \_\_\_\_\_

---

---

Ladies and gentlemen of the jury:

I find the book \_\_\_\_\_ by \_\_\_\_\_  
(Title of Book) (Author)

to be **good / very good / excellent** at \_\_\_\_\_;  
(circle one) (List the positive qualities of the book. Examples: making me laugh, keeping me in suspense, etc.)

however, there were areas in which the book was **not quite as good / pretty bad / horrible**: \_\_\_\_\_  
(List them.)

### Positives: The Good Stuff

**Claim:** Complete the sentences.

**Evidence:** Quote from book (& page #) that supports claim

**Reasoning:** How does this show a positive quality?

One positive quality about the book is...		
Another thing that makes the book enjoyable is...		
Best of all...		

### Negatives: The Bad Stuff

**Claim:** Complete the sentences.

**Evidence:** Quote from book (& page #) that supports claim

**Reasoning:** How does this show a negative quality?

One negative quality about the book is...		
Another problem with the book is...		
Worst of all...		

As you can see from the evidence presented above, this book is \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.