



Book Talks

noun (buk) (tawk) 1. A conversation about a book that one's read, infused with joy and emotion. Best if done daily

You've been reading great books, and now it's time to share some of them with your fellow students! We'll be doing this by giving book talks. Students will sign up to give their book talks presentation after September 07. Sign-ups will be in the classroom. A schedule will be sent out as soon as everyone has signed up.

What is the purpose of a book talk?

Think of a book talk as a commercial for a book. Your job is to persuade someone to read the book you are talking about. You'll know you gave book talk if someone else in the class decides to read your book.

What are the elements of a book talk?

Your book talk will have four parts:

1. Hook
2. Information about the book
3. Analysis of the book
4. "Selling" Points

How do I get started?

1. You will be using the book you selected to read during the summer. Remember the goal is to persuade your audience to read the book.
2. Complete the book survey form. It is due the week before your book talk. The book survey will help you set up your talk.
3. Memorize your talk. You may use note cards, but do NOT plan on reading off of the cards. The cards are just to help you remember your main points.
4. Practice! Practice! Practice!

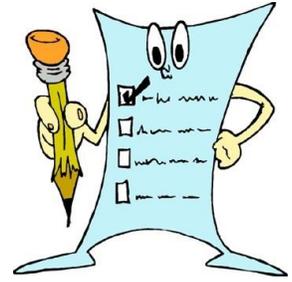
What happens on the day I give my talk?

1. Bring your book with you. Do not ask to go to the library to see if it is available. Be prepared and bring the book with you!
2. Give your talk. You should not talk for more than five minutes.
3. Be ready to answer questions about the book.

Book Talk Survey

Name: _____

Book Talk Date: _____ Today's Date: _____



Title of the book:
Author:
Genre:
Publisher:
Copyright Date:
Number of Pages:

Hook: What is the hook you're using? Write it out here.

Summary: Please write a complete summary of the book. Include information about the beginning, middle, and end of your book. Please include spoilers here!! (Just no spoilers in your talk!) You may use another piece of paper if you like.

How will you persuade your audience?

What's so great about your book?

What is your favorite part of this book?

Who would like this book (don't say "everyone")?

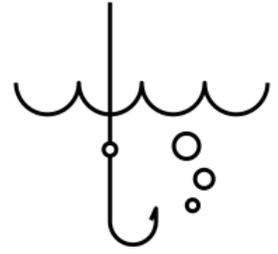
What is the approximate grade level of the book?

What analysis questions will you be addressing in your talk?

Hooks

Introduce your talk by using a ‘hook’ that will interest your audience.

1. Ask a question
2. Describe the setting
3. Read an exciting passage
4. Describe a problem in the book
5. Use a surprising statement
6. Explain the main idea behind the story
7. Explain the problem the protagonist has
8. Tell a riddle that relates to the book.



Questions to Use When Analyzing Fiction

After you've introduced your book and told your audience something about it, use two of these questions below to delve deeper into the book.

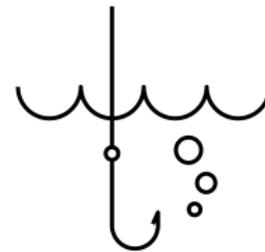
Choose questions that apply to the novel you've read that show you've thought about the meaning of the book. Be sure to refer to concrete details from the book to support your thoughts. Check off the questions as you use them.

1. What makes this book unique?
2. What challenges did you have when reading this book?
3. What makes the main character interesting?
4. What is the primary conflict in the book, and why is it important?
5. What is the theme of the book? How do you know?
6. Why is this an important book for kids to read?
7. Who is the protagonist and what qualities does he or she have?
8. Who is the antagonist and what qualities does he or she have?
9. Why is the setting important to the story?
10. How does the protagonist change in the novel?
11. What is your favorite scene in the book and why?
12. Is this a believable story? Why or why not? Does the believability affect how you feel about the book?
13. What is something about the story that surprised you?
14. What lingering questions and thoughts does the book leave with you?
15. What ideas from the book will stick with the reader once he or she is finished with it?
16. Did you believe the characters were realistic? Why or why not? How does that influence the story?
17. What choices do the characters make that adds to the excitement or interest to the story?
18. What positive and negative qualities of the protagonist make the character believable?
19. What were some of the subplots of the novel that make the overall story enjoyable?

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Questions to Use When Analyzing Nonfiction

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Choose questions that apply to the novel you've read that show you've thought about the meaning of the book. Be sure to refer to concrete details from the book to support your thoughts. Check off the questions as you use them.

1. How does the title relate to the book?
2. What relevant qualifications does the author have?
3. How is the book organized and does this help the reader understand it?
4. What is the author's main purpose for writing this book?
5. Does the book have a clearly defined and specific audience in mind? For example, is the book written for the general public, students at a specific level, academics, experts in the field etc.?
6. How does the book relate or compare to other works about the same topic?
7. Does the book aim to provide an overview of a larger topic?
8. Does the book look at a specific individual, idea, place, time period?
9. Does the book leave anything out that it should have considered?
10. From what point of view is the work written (e.g. economic, political, historical)?
11. Does the author omit facts, ideas, and alternate arguments?
12. Is the author objective (are alternative views considered)?
13. What is the author's main thesis (i.e. main argument/main idea)?
14. What types of evidence does the author use to support the thesis or ideas in the book?
15. Does the book come to any clear conclusions?
16. What are the particular strengths of the book?
17. What are the particular weaknesses or limitations of the book?

Book Talk Rubric

Book Title: _____

Date: _____

10/	Prepared. You brought the book in on the day of the talk.
5/	Interesting. You used a hook and connected it to your talk.
10/	Summary. You summarized the book giving the audience information about the book including genre, setting, plot, characters, and theme. You blended this information together and didn't list it.
10/	Thoughtful. You addressed two of the analysis questions about the book, but did not just list the questions. You incorporated this into your talk.
10/	Persuasive. You did a good job "selling" the book. You make it clear what the best part of the book was. You were specific in your discussion.
5/	Conclusion. You ended the talk in a thoughtful way. You didn't just stop.
10/	Voice. You were loud and clear. YOU used expression.
10/	Eye Contact. You looked at everyone in the room.
10/	Posture/ Body Language. You stood up straight and looked relaxed.
10/	You memorized your talk. You used your notes or presentation only to keep you on track.
Total	Comments: