

As you will all know now, you have been asked to write your own book review about one of our class texts. Through the work we have done together this year, it has been clear that there is only one favourite text this year. That is why our book reviews will be reviewing Journey to Jo'burg.

As this is a competition and as I know we are the best Year 4, I will be expecting amazing presentation, beautiful handwriting, in depth sentences and paragraphs explaining parts of the text as well as your reasons for your viewpoints on the text.

For this you will need to think about:

The book title

The author

The illustrator

The publisher

The genre

The plot

The context- where and when the narrative is set

What you think about the text.

The first four bullet points are in red as there is no need for these to be modelled by me and you can find these out yourselves!

The second four are in blue because these are modelled by Mr Spencer below.

Genre

The Genre of the text is fiction because it is a non-factual story; however, the story is based on real events. The narrative genre is also of adventure because of the adventure our protagonists go on.

Plot

This story is about two children who live in a poor village in South Africa. Their mother works far away in Johannesburg and their father died from a disease caught in the mines. Their little sister is desperately ill and the two children decide to walk to the city to bring their mother home. The story tells of their awakening to the situation in their country of the appalling treatment of blacks

by the rich white people. The children finally find their mother, but their troubles are not yet over. Things are not as simple as they thought they would be. They have to stay with their new friend for the night, then travel back with their mother the next day. They experience a tense few days while Dineo is in hospital. This part of the story opens the children's eyes even more to the uncertainties and dangers of life in South Africa.

The context- where and when the narrative is set

The narrative is set during the time of Apartheid which was a system of racial segregation in South Africa from 1948-1994. It is set in the area of Johannesburg, South Africa which is also called Jo'burg in the book. The story begins in a small, unnamed village where Naledi and Tiro, a girl and her younger brother, live with their little sister, Dineo, their grandma, and their aunt. The children, our protagonists, witness lots of the cruel and oppressive laws of the Apartheid government in South Africa and the injustice of being a poor person there.

What do you think about the text?

This bit is completely up to you. Here are some sentence starters to help you!

I think that the narrative "Journey to Jo'burg" is _____
because

I think this narrative is humbling and heart-warming because

I really enjoyed reading this story because

Below is a checklist to help you to include as many language features as possible. If you need anything else, let me know. Good luck, Year 4. Show me how amazing you are!

For your amazing book reviews attempt to include:

Causal conjunction- because, as a result, therefore

Contrasting conjunctions, but, however, nevertheless

Relative clauses- these come in the middle of a sentence, start with who, which or that and add detail to a sentence

Fronted Adverbials- these come at the start of the sentence and add detail

Use the word "protagonist" instead of main character