Sample Outline for a Book Review:

1. Introductory Paragraph

- a. Identify the title, the author, and the publisher of the book.
- b. Summarize the main idea/theme of the book you are reviewing in one or two sentences.
- c. Write your thesis (what you think of the book).
 - i. Example: I loved the book but I had some problems with it.
 - ii. Example: I thought the book has useful information for parents of deaf children.

1. Body Paragraph(s)

- a. Summarize the important points of the book (This can be one or several paragraphs.)
 - i. Use quotes or paraphrases from the book to prove your points.
 - ii. Use MLA style formatting.
- b. Evaluate (This can be one or several paragraphs.)
 - i. Explain the writer's purpose for writing the book. Give your opinion on whether the writer achieved her/his purpose in writing the book.
 - ii. Criticize/praise the book
- c. Explain to your audience if you thought the book was entertaining or boring, has good characters or unrealistic characters, has thorough information or inadequate information.
 - i. Use quotes or paraphrases from the book to prove your points.
 - ii. Use MLA style formatting.

1. Conclusion

- a. Review the main points of your argument.
- b. Remind the reader of your thesis (whether or not you thought the book was good).

Example Book Reviews