

*Handout Number 11*

**Steps for Writing a Book Report**

1) **Introduction:** Identify the author and title of the work, and include in parentheses the publisher and the publication date. Give general statements. Then put a thesis statement of what you are going to write about.

2) Write a **summary** by highlighting its main points in not more than 60-80 words.

3) **Reaction:** Write a topic sentence for each main idea. Then put specific evidence and support by using exact quotations from the play or novel. Use in-text documentation (family name of the author, year of publication, page number). Afterwards, give your reaction to that point.

You will have 2 or 3 reaction paragraphs.

Use transitions to connect ideas and paragraphs to each other.

4) **Conclusion:** Give your opinion and what lesson a student can learn from the novel or play.

Adapted from:

Langan, J. (2005). *College writing skills*. (6<sup>th</sup> ed.) Boston: McGrawHill.

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