

Writing: Review

Do you think we need another fast-food restaurant in town? Your answer to that question will probably depend on how easily you can already access a fast-food outlet, and how much you enjoy fast food.

However, whether you think you need it or not, a new fast-food venue is here. Last weekend, Burger Delight opened its door. It is open from midday until midnight, seven days a week, and moreover, for the next month, all soft drinks are free of charge. Consequently, my friends and I decided to visit.

Unfortunately, we were disappointed at the inconvenient location on the outskirts of town. The nearest bus stop was considerably further away than we thought. Although the outside of the restaurant was ugly, I was pleasantly surprised by the inside, which was clean with attractive décor. In addition, although it was busy, the staff were friendly and very helpful we asked questions. On the other hand, I was disappointed by the menu because the choice was quite limited and boring. Nevertheless, the quality of the food was excellent and everything we tried was actually delicious. Finally, the prices were mostly very reasonable and as a result nothing seemed overpriced.

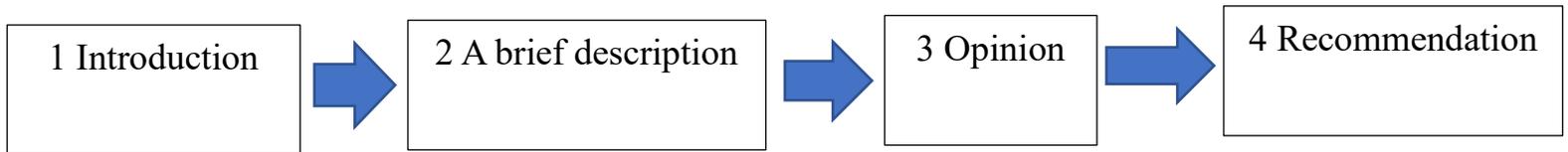
To sum up, I doubt if I personally would return to Burger Delight because of its location but if you like guaranteed quality fast food at a reasonable price, then you should visit this new restaurant.

A **review** is your **evaluation** of something you have read or seen, such **as a film, video game or book**. A review could also focus **on somewhere you have been-** for example, **a festival, concert or restaurant-** or even something that you have used, such as computer software or equipment.



Before Writing

When you write a review, you need to make a judgement about something and explain your assessment of it. There are different ways to write a review, but we are going to follow this four-step plan:



In any writing task, it is important to understand who your audience is. This will help you to decide if your writing should be informal, neutral or formal.



If the review will be seen by people who read the magazine (other students, teachers, parents), so the style should be neutral or formal.

Example of the review's content!

Restaurant information and features	Vocabulary
Location	Central part of town, outskirts of the city, inside the shopping mall
Prices	Very cheap, overpriced, special deals and offers
Staff	Very friendly and polite, quite rude and impatient, only one person available
Food choice/variety	Wide range of food, no vegetarian options, some of the food was sold out
Restaurant seating	Tables not cleaned, very uncomfortable seats, plenty of space for everyone

★ Using a variety of adjectives help to improve the quality of written work. Point out that repeating the same basic adjectives: “big, nice, lovely etc.) makes for a negative reading experience.

The following are suggestions of adjectives you can use:

Positive	Negative
Attractive	Ugly
Convenient	Inconvenient
Cheap	Overpriced
Local	Far away
Healthy	Unhealthy
Quiet	Loud
Delicious	Disgusting
Fashionable	Unfashionable
Helpful	Unhelpful
Calm	Busy
Polite	Rude
Fresh	Stale
Satisfying	Unsatisfying
Cozy	Unwelcoming
Interesting	Boring
Extensive	Limited
Reasonable	Unreasonable

1 Introduction:

The main purpose of the introduction to a review is to explain what the review is about while capturing your reader's interest.

2 Brief description

In the second paragraph, you need to describe the restaurant.

3 Opinion

The third paragraph in a review is often the longest. You may decide to combine the second and the third paragraph into one longer paragraph in order to include your opinion of each feature as you describe it.

4 Recommendation

Say whether you recommend it or not!

Phrases to recommend the restaurant or café:

- a. I would really recommend
- b. You should give it a try
- c. It is worth the stop
- d. I can't wait to return and wouldn't hesitate to recommend to anyone looking for somewhere to eat in
- e. It can be expensive but worth it and they do different deals on different nights so it's worth checking them out before you book
- f. When we think about celebrations, this restaurant is always our first option and it never disappoints. I highly recommend it!

Phrases you use to say that you do not want to recommend:

- a. I wouldn't recommend
- b. I strongly advise you to
- c. This restaurant is not to be missed

Remember to focus on the five senses and use linking devices!