

## Structure

Look at the sample below, and answer the following questions.

1. What is the suggested structure?
2. Do you see this structure below? (Where does each section begin and end?)
3. What words does the writer use to show the start of each section?
4. Make notes in your vocabulary notebooks of interesting language you could use.

### **Movie review: Avatar**

Andrew Blyth  
2012ZZ007  
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*Avatar* is a science fiction movie written and directed by James Cameron [1] made with the latest and greatest special effects. Visually, it is a stunning extravaganza containing important political messages for our times.

#### **Introduction**

Include:

- Name of movie
- Key features
- Name of creator (usually director)

*Italicise* movie names

The movie is set on an alien world, where humans have invaded and are attempting to extract resources to be used in industry on Earth. The iconic blue local people, the Na'vi, are resisting the military efforts of the humans to mine their planet and strip it of its resources. The movie begins when Jake Sully, played by Sam Worthington [2], uses his Na'vi-shaped avatar to join the local people. He learns that they want peace, and the humans are actually invasive, cruel, and inhumane of their treatment of the Na'vi. Consequently, Jake decides to support the Na'vi in their resistance against the humans [1&2].

#### **Body**

- Synopsis
- Context
- Key events
- Theme of story

Never say how the movie ends (don't spoil or ruin the surprise)

The movie has both good and bad points. It has stunning visual effects, where the computer animations are amazingly life-like. However, the 3D effects were a little lacklustre. Initially the story seems fantastic, that is until you realize that it is a copy of *The Last Samurai*, starring Tom Cruise. The flying scenes are brilliant, but again until you realise they are a copy of the movie *How to Train*

#### **Review / opinion**

- Make brief comments on three or four of these:
- Aesthetics
- Sound track
- Acting skill

<p><i>your Dragon</i>. The story concept is politically relevant for America which has troops in Afghanistan and Iraq, is stimulating for American audiences, but not really interesting for non-Americans. However, there are more real-life parallels with the oil industry and its devastation on Nigeria.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Story writing skill</li> <li>• Directing skill</li> <li>• Any other key features</li> </ul> <p>Common mistake: <i>Never</i> summarise, only give your opinion.</p>
<p>In all, the alien world story is fascinating at first, the visual effects are superficially stunning. However, James Cameron was still able to draw in the crowds and earn over 2 billion dollars! [1] ★ ★ ★ /5</p>	<p><b>Conclusion</b> Your overall impression and rating.</p>
<p>[1] Wikipedia: <a href="http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Avatar_(2009_film)">http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Avatar_(2009_film)</a> [2] Internet Movie Database: <a href="http://www.imdb.com/title/tt0499549/">http://www.imdb.com/title/tt0499549/</a></p>	<p><b>References</b> Harvard / footnote type</p>

### Key Phrases

Find these phrases, and discuss why they are used

1. [movie name] is a + genre... written by [name of author], and directed by [name of director]
2. ... [name of character], played by [actor], ...
3. The movie is...
4. The movie has...
5. The movie has [adj + noun]
6. The story is...
7. In all, ... / In summary, ... / To sum up, ... / Overall, ...

### Key adjectives & adverbs

Search through the article, and list all the adjectives and adverbs below.

Adjectives	Adverbs
Brilliant	Visually