**Book Review Writing Guidelines:**

* Summarization of the plot should take no more than two sentences of the review. The rest of the review should be critically focused.
* Mention both strengths and weaknesses.
* Note potential uses for the title and its possible audience. (e.g. – “A good read aloud.” or “An excellent research tool.”)
* Note any errors/omissions (e.g. – “There are no source notes.” or “The author assumes that all file sharing is illegal.”)
* Think of the end user while writing the review.
* Consider composing a pithy sentence at the beginning that is both summative and evaluative.

**Sample Review:**

An original story line is marred by uneven pacing in this thriller for older grade school readers about giant worms taking over the planet. A likeable narrator and well-imagined details will pull in readers and some interest might be generated by the expressive, black and while line drawings of the worms that accompany each chapter. Unfortunately, after a strong beginning, the story lingers too long over its many plot points and it ultimately loses momentum. Serious sci-fi fans might take an interest, but this should be overlooked by most others.

**Things to avoid:**

* Summarizing instead of evaluating
* Generalities (e.g. “The drawings are cute.”)