Writing can be categorized in two ways, narrative (telling a story), and expository (giving information). Expository papers have three main parts consisting of the introduction, the body, and the conclusion. The introduction tells the reader what will be explained or proved. The body of the book report consists of paragraphs (topic sentence and detail sentences) that give reasons, details, and/or facts. Conclusions restate your position and give your opinion.

A book report is an example of expository writing. In your own words, write a descriptive, well-organized book report that includes 4-5 of the elements of fiction defined below. Begin with an introductory paragraph. For the body of your report, write several paragraphs, each describing one of the 4-5 elements of fiction you have chosen to address. Explain how one element relates to the other. For example, tell how the characters’ personality helps resolve the conflict; or move the plot forward. Be sure to use examples from the text to provide evidence, elaboration, emotion, etc. Finally, end with a closing paragraph.

Be exciting! Use a variety of expressive words and phrases. For example, “Melissa begins the novel possessing a sharp, severe tongue. Yet her gentle eyes and bright smile lighten her severity” (WOW! 😊); instead of, “Melissa was mean, but her eyes and smile were pretty” (boring 😞). Please attach this page to the back of your report.

Indent the beginning of each paragraph one inch. Proofread for complete sentences and correct spelling, punctuation, and capitalization. Remember to write neatly in cursive or use a word processor.

**Elements of Fiction**
Place a check mark next to those elements you have chosen to address in your report and attach this sheet to your report.

___Setting- the time and place of the story. The time might be a specific year, season, era, historical period, or even the future. The place might be a country, city, state, region, urban, rural, land form, water body; or even a specific room or building. Setting can also be used to tell reader about the characters or set the atmosphere for the story.

___Characters- who the story is about. Characters can be people, animals, or fanaticized beings. Often, one character can be singled out as the main character, but some books will have more than one.
___Plot - the sequence of events in a story, each event causing or leading to the next. It is the explanation of what happens to the main character(s). For a story to be interesting, the characters must usually solve one or more problems that confront them.

___Conflict - the dramatic struggle between two forces and the problems or events that result from this meeting. Without conflict, there is no plot.

___Theme - the central idea of the story. It may be a moral (like Aesop's fables) or teach a life lesson. The theme is not presented directly. One way to discover the theme of a story is to observe what the main character learns. In other words, you must figure out the theme yourself. Themes are general and should be declared in one complete sentence. For example, "Evil is punished and good is rewarded" or "Good friends are worth more than gold".

___Foreshadowing - a clue which suggests a later event in the plot, or the outcome of the story.

___Symbol - an object that stands for an idea, feeling, or belief. Often, in stories, objects take on symbolic meanings. For example, a journey can symbolize life; black can represent evil or death; water may represent a new beginning; a lion could be a symbol of courage.

___Analysis - your opinion of the story; the quality of writing; the theme, or anything other part of the book. The analysis is worthless unless you give specific reasons for your feelings. Share what you have learned by reading this book; what the best part of the book was; if you would read other books by this author, etc. Most writers include the analysis as part of the concluding paragraph.