



Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research

Ahmed Zabana University

Faculty of Letters and Languages

Department of English



Module: Discourse Analysis

Level: M1 /M2

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Book/Chapter/Article Review

Reviewing a book or an article **is not** just a **summary**. Rather, it is an **analysis, comments on** and an **evaluation** of the work. As part of a module's assignment, it is often **written to position the work** within the module's objectives and content.

The main aim of such a task is to assess students' ability **to identify arguments** and to **think critically** about the content of the document.

The most important point to remember is that your task is **to discuss the work's presentation and treatment of the topic** not the topic itself. Therefore, it is suitable to use "the author states", "the author argues", "the article demonstrates".

To master this skill, students are encouraged to refer to the following guidelines:

- Who wrote the book/chapter/article? (Do a background check to identify the author's field of expertise and relate the reviewed work with previous works if possible).
- When was it written and as part of what?
- What is its precise topic?
- What is its general aim?
- What readership is it written for? (When possible)
- Has the author explicitly stated the thesis?
- What are the theoretical assumptions adopted?
- What is the work's addition to the already existing knowledge/ongoing discussion on the topic?
- What kind of material does it present (a research study findings, review of the literature, a primary document)?
- How is this material used to demonstrate and advance the thesis?
- Are there different methods to use the same material/ advance the thesis?
- Is the author aware of them?
- How does the author position himself vis-à-vis these methods?
- What are the proposed further discussions raised by the author?
- What are your thoughts on the work and its presentation?