Suggested Teaching Components

Develop appropriate vocabulary

Stage 3

- Follow the text structure and language features of a review
- Understand the purpose of a review
- Understand and respond to a review either orally or in writing
- Use range of skills and strategies appropriate to the text, e.g. summarising, note taking
- Develop an awareness of techniques used by writers to create certain effects and position the reader,
 e.g. critical orientation, opinion, recommendation
- Develop an understanding of the role of visual texts, e.g. posters, covers, in aiding comprehension

Suggested Themes, Topics and/or Experiences

Literature themes, artworks, performances, songs

Suggested Assessment Tasks

- Write a letter to the editor stating why a review is good or bad
- Complete a simple sociogram depicting characters and their inter/relationships
- Complete comprehension tasks

Note: There are many internet sites which have good examples of a reviews of film and fiction. One of these is http://www.movieweb.com/movie/romeojuliet/

Sample Strategies

Teacher directed

- Model reading reviews to build field knowledge and develop awareness of audience and purpose
- Develop technical vocabulary to identify/discuss aspects of stories, films, recordings, e.g. theme, characters, setting, stage
- Identify features common to different types of reviews, e.g. author, synopsis
- Identify text structure and language features of a review especially modality, present tense and adjectives

Joint/guided

- Deconstruct texts and identify facts and opinions
- Identify and classify positive and negative language, e.g. recommend, funny, sad, interesting, slow, weak
- Write questions to interview a reviewer
- Compare two reviews of the same book, film etc., and complete an information matrix showing similarities/differences

Independent

- Complete comprehension activities, e.g. 'wh' questions
- Find excerpts in a novel to support statements made in a book review
- Write a letter to the editor stating why you think this is a good/bad review
- Complete a simple sociogram depicting characters and their inter/relationships