The Language of Book Reviews

A good website for reading book reviews is [www.lovereading4kids.co.uk](http://www.lovereading4kids.co.uk)

Book Review of The Suitcase Kid.

Andy is a very confused girl because she has two homes. With divorced parents and annoying step brothers and sisters, she seeks comfort from her toy rabbit called Radish.

This is a brilliant book that is humorously written and easy to read, it presents the story in a way that seems like a diary.

Its honest and true to life, Andy’s story will appeal to young readers that have had trouble dealing with dilemmas when parents divorce.

The teacher reads out the text to the pupils once or twice.

Then she or he reads the text again more slowly.

The groupings of words in the text, which are called collocations, are shown on a grid but have been split up

Pupils tick the grid below to show where the words in the collocations match

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Active Listening Task** | **comfort** | **rabbit** | **and true- to- life** | **girl** | **book** | **parents** | **appeal** | **step family** | **to read** | **written** | **divorce** | **with dilemmas** | **readers** |
| **confused** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **parents** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **humorously** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **divorced** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **easy** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **dealing** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **annoying** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **honest** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **seeks** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **will** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **toy** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **young** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | √ |
| **brilliant** |  |  |  |  | √ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

After the activity has been completed ask questions so that pupils can use the collocations

e.g *What did the reviewer think of the book? It was a brilliant book.*

 *Who will the book appeal to? It will appeal to young readers*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| What was it about? | It was about……… |
| Did he/ she like it? | Yes/ No………………………..because he/ she says |
| How well was it written? | It was…………… |
| Was it worthwhile? | It was…………. |

Use the grid above as a way of framing the reviewers responses.Over a number of weeks learners will acquire book review language from similar activities