



Software:

Microsoft Word or PrintShop – to design a newspaper article

Internet – to find information, samples and pictures

Hardware:

Scanner – to scan in pictures, such as CD covers

Overview: Students will act as critics writing for a newspaper by reviewing CDs, movies, video games and products. This activity will enhance writing and research skills as well as allowing students to express their opinions creatively.

Writing a Review

- Have students visit the following web sites to find examples of reviews:
<http://www.filmcritic.com> – Movie reviews
<http://www.attheshore.net/sound.shtml> – CD reviews
<http://www.gamereviewers.com/> - Video game reviews
- Ask students to choose a CD, movie, video game or product to review. Have the students use the internet to gather additional information on their chosen item.
- Have students write a description of the item. Ask the students questions such as:
 For a movie:
 What was the story about?
 Who were the main characters?
 For a CD:
 What kind of music is this CD?
 Who is the artist? Has the artist released any other CDs?
 For a video game:
 What equipment do you need to play this game?
 What is the object of the game?
- Have students write a review giving their own opinions. Instruct students to tell whether or not they like the item and why. Then have students rate the item using a five-star system and tell whether or not they would recommend the item to their friends.
- Have students use PrintShop or Microsoft Word to design a newspaper article reviewing their item. Allow students to gather pictures related to their review using the internet or the scanner
- After students are finished completing the article, begin a discussion by allowing students to share their opinions with the other students in the class.