Introduction: include title of book, author, date and a suggestion of your view

Summarise the main features of the plot but don't give away the ending

Add a bit about characters: who you liked / didn't like; how believeable they were

What are the main ideas?

Sum up what you thought of the book and if it is worth reading

Decide on the tone you want to use: Casual (colloquial) or formal?

| Colloquial: Here is a book that will get you thinking/jumping/etc. | Formal: ‘Title’ is a worthy addition to anybody’s library. |
| Colloquial: I rate this as a hopeless four out of ten. | Formal: This is not a book that will appeal to many. |

Let’s break the rules!

Read the review by Darren Levy and annotate in the column. Find where he deals with:

| Character | Plot | Idea | Writing style | Setting | Opinion | Structure |

What tone does he use?

What conclusion can you draw about good book reviews? Do they have to follow a formula?