

formal or informal) depends on where the review is published and who will read it. Reviews normally include: an introduction, in which we give some background details about the type of film and the setting; a main body where we give details about the plot, main characters and comment on various features (e.g. the acting); and a conclusion with a recommendation. Present tenses are normally used. A variety of adjectives can make the review more interesting.

- 1 Where might you see each review?
- 2 Who will read them?
- 3 What style are they written in? Why?
- 4 What tenses are used? Give reasons.

3 Read the film review below. Which paragraph mentions: the plot? the name/type of film? the director? what the film's about? the writer's recommendation? the setting? the cast? the writer's overall opinion? the special effects?

King Kong

King Kong is Peter Jackson's breathtaking remake of the classic 1933 film about a giant gorilla. It is an action adventure film set in New York City in the 1930s that won three Oscars.

The plot is both gripping and terrifying. A film-maker takes his cast and crew on a boat to explore a mystery island. When they get there, they meet unfriendly natives, dinosaurs and all kinds of huge animals and insects. Those who escape head back to New York with an unwanted guest on board.

The acting is brilliant. The biggest star of the movie is obviously King Kong himself, but Naomi Watts is extremely believable as the woman King Kong falls in love with. Jack Black gives a spectacular performance as the ambitious film-maker. As for the special effects, they are absolutely fantastic!

All in all, King Kong is one of the best films I've seen in a long while. It's perhaps a little long at 3 hours 10 minutes, but apart from that it's an outstanding film. If you only see one film this year, this should be it!