Book Review Data Format

Bibliographical Data: (Author, Title, and Publication Data)

Background Information:

Who is the author? (What is the nationality and origin? When did the author write? Check standard reference books.)

What other work has the author done?

What is the author’s reputation?

Are there any important or enlightening circumstances connected with the composition of this work?

Subject Matter of the Book

What kind of book is it? (Is it fiction, history, popular psychology, textbook, technical?)
What is the subject of the book?

What material does it treat?

What is the tenor of the book—the author’s basic interpretation of the material?

Method of Organization

Summarize in your own words the table of contents

What are the tone and style of the book? (What kind of audience is being addressed? Does the author give interesting facts or analyses?)

State four to ten main ideas of the book. (Use a separate sheet of paper or the back of this page.)

Select and quote one short passage as an example of the author’s insight. (Use a separate sheet of paper or the back of this page.)