

READ + REVIEW EXAMPLES:

THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN ONE CREDIT HOUR + 2 CREDIT HOURS

EXAMPLE 1: ONE CREDIT HOUR

The Hunger Games, by Suzanne Collins

The world of Panem is divided into districts. Every year each district sends a young "tribute" to the Hunger Games, which are broadcast nation-wide. Sounds cool, right? But the point of the games is for the tributes to battle each other to the death!

It sounds really grim, yet I really enjoyed this book! It's action-packed and full of tough dilemmas and decisions. I kept wondering if I would be brave enough or strong enough to make the decisions Katniss did. Even though it's set in a bleak world, the actions of many of the characters give us hope.

One thing that sticks with me is how manipulative the government and the Games were. I could not imagine really living in a world like that.

PROS:

- Correct spelling, grammar, and syntax.
- The review is original work, it does not plagiarize, and does not contain spoilers.
- Sentences are almost entirely complete with good sentence structure (syntax).

CONS:

- "Sounds cool, right?" is not a complete sentence.
- The sentences are mostly complete, but are not particularly *strong* sentences. The writing is generally simple and doesn't show much effort.
- There is not much personal opinion expressed in the review. We expect more in-depth reflection for reviews to earn the maximum two hours credit.

REMEMBER:

- STRONG SENTENCES
- CORRECT SPELLING, GRAMMAR, AND SYNTAX
- ORIGINAL WORK
- PERSONAL REFLECTION

TAKE YOUR TIME,
PLAN YOUR WRITING
AND GO FOR TWO
HOURS!

EXAMPLE 2: TWO CREDIT HOURS

Across the Universe, by Beth Revis

Nearly all of Across the Universe takes place on an enormous spaceship, planned to travel for hundreds of years. Generations of people are born on the ship and they take care of the people who were frozen back on earth. These people are going to colonize a new world —if they make it there! Amy was woken up early —but it may be that her thawing was really meant to kill her. Luckily, she's got an ally in Elder, who is tapped to be the next leader. Nothing is like she thought it would be. A whole new culture has evolved on the ship, and it's kind of weird.

I liked the plot and the romance. I wanted to like Amy, but kept getting annoyed that all she wanted was her parents —at 17! But maybe she needed to be that way, so we could see that she grew up at the end. Elder was sympathetic, and he and the other people on Godspeed were compelling, as was their situation / culture. I will probably read the next book in the series. I do want to see what happens next!

The descriptions made me understand what it might be like for my whole world to be a spaceship; not to ever have seen real atmosphere and ground. I think that kind of small "world" would be hard to live in. I also could not get the description of her "freezing" out of my mind —so creepy!

PROS:

- Correct spelling, grammar, and syntax.
- Sentences are well-written, drawing you in to the summary of the book and the reviewer's analysis.
- The review is original and not plagiarized.
- Detailed personal reflection and criticism of the book. The author of this review put more effort into thinking about the book and writing the review than the author of Example 1.

