



# *Canadian Journal of Information and Library Science / Revue canadienne des sciences de l'information et de bibliothéconomie*

## Book Review Guidelines

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### Book Review Process

Thank you for agreeing to review a book for [Canadian Journal of Information and Library Science / Revue canadienne des sciences de l'information et de bibliothéconomie \(CJILS/RCSIB\)](#). The following guidelines have been developed to provide some focus and direction for all book reviewers.

### Review Format

The title of the review is the bibliographical information for the book:

Name of author(s). Title. Edition statement (if applicable). City(ies): Name of publisher(s), date of publication. Page count, Illustrations (if any). ISBN, and the price.

#### *Example of Review Title*

William Strunk Jr. and E. B. White. *The Elements of Style*. 4th ed. New York: Allyn and Bacon, 2000. xvii, 147 p., color illustrations. ISBN: 0-205-31342-6, \$20.99 CAN.

#### *Word Limit*

No longer than 500 words, inclusive of references.

### Additional Elements for Submission

Please do not structure your review as a chapter by chapter analysis. Rather, write your comments and personal opinions about the book as a whole, highlighting particular areas of interest to illustrate your points. If you enjoyed the book, or thought the text was commendable, communicate your views in a way that will also make others want to read it.

Do not forget to indicate your full name, accreditation, and affiliation at the end of your review. Please also include your e-mail address at the end of your review, so that we can send page proofs directly to you, prior to publication.

### Queries

**Q:** *Should I focus my review on any particular areas of the book?*

**A:** If you are reviewing a new edition of a book, it is a good idea to compare it with the previous version. The preface offers some guidance about what has been added, deleted, changed, as well as outlining any new research that has been included and whether the references have been updated.

If the book is illustrated, comment on the illustrations. Are they clear, do they relate well to the text? Does the index really fulfill its purpose?

Indicate the type of audience that would be interested in the book you are reviewing.

**Q:** *Do I have to read the whole book?*



**A:** You do not have to read the whole book, but you may wish to do so for your own interest and for the benefit of a more detailed, accurate and informative review. Former reviewers advise the longer you wait to begin your review, the more difficult the task will become.

To get an overall perspective of the book take a good look at the book's table of contents and the chapter headings, read a few pages to sample the author's style, read a chapter on an area you know a great deal about, as well as a chapter you know less about to see whether it is explained clearly.

**Q:** *Can I keep the book once I have completed my review?*

**A:** Yes!

**Q:** *What do I do if I feel the book is not worth reviewing?*

**A:** On the rare occasion, a reviewer may feel the material is not worth reviewing. If this is the case, please contact the book review editor to determine next steps.

### *What is a DOI?*

A DOI is an article's unique identifier, registered with [CrossRef](#) (FAQ on CrossRef here: <http://www.crossref.org/01company/16fastfacts.html>) and used to create a persistent link to the article — even if the article moves. (A journal might switch from one online hosting service to another, for example; the URL will change, but the DOI link will follow it.) A reader using the online version of an article's reference list can click on any DOI link to immediately get to the cited source; a reader using the print version can be sure of finding exactly the right article by searching the DOI instead of the author(s) or article title. Each of our online articles has its own DOI, which can be used to link back to it from other documents that cite it; including DOI links in our reference lists is the other end of that process (sort of like using recycled paper as well as recycling used paper). The more citations include DOIs, the more researchers will use them, which ultimately will drive more readers to our content.

Thank you so much for your willingness to review a book and your interest in [CJILS/RCSIB](#).

Questions relating to any of the above details may be directed to the [CJILS/RCSIB](#) Book Review Editors at the addresses below:

#### **French Book Reviews**

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