



How to Write a Synopsis

A synopsis is a short summary that includes the most important points of a text. A synopsis of fiction covers the main character, the conflict, and the major events of a story. It may also reference the style, genre, setting, etc. A synopsis of nonfiction includes the main idea of a text, as well as the most important supporting information. You can write a synopsis of just about anything: books, articles, academic papers, films, television programs, and even video games.

DIRECTIONS: A synopsis should always include the following elements. Fill out the chart below for the assigned text. Then write your synopsis.

Start with a hook.
Introduce the main characters.
Describe the setting.
Describe the main conflict.
Outline the main events of the story, especially the turning points.
Make sure you include how it ends.
Include the genre, tone, and/or style of the work.
Briefly discuss why the book matters.