

**Tell the author what you think
about his novel “Stormbreaker” and its protagonist Alex Rider**

Assignment	Phrases
–Read the novel, discuss it, and work out what you and your friends like and dislike about it. –List points that you would like to put to the author. The list below may give you ideas. –Appreciate his work. You may also express criticism but only in the nicest possible way. –Write a <u>formal</u> letter to this address: Mr Anthony Horowitz c/o United Agents Ltd. 12-26 Lexington Street London, W1F 0LE United Kingdom	○ at first it seemed really... but then I realised that... ○ I thought it was a bit... ○ what I (particularly [-'----]) liked was... ○ what I (positively ['-----]) hate is... ○ we as a class have agreed to read an English book..., a majority of boys..., famous author..., adventure... ○ we have read / thought about / discussed this book of yours... ○ you are a most creative writer..., you must be extremely busy..., great power of imagination..., you have had fantastic success... ○ you may wonder why..., it may come as bit of a surprise – it might almost seem strange... ○ we are interested in ..., less impressed by... mildly surprised that..., almost shocked... ○ we find... unusual, amazing, fairly shocking...
The novel ○ the story ○ suspense and surprise ○ the characters X, Y, Z... ○ prejudice ○ post-colonial attitudes ○ the British self-image	○ a good read, a fascinating ['----] experience, a thriller / a real page-turner / an un-put-down-able spy-novel ○ we are kept wondering what is going to happen next ○ each chapter ends with a cliff-hanger ○ refreshing, inspiring – boring, repetitive, predictable, implausible ○ comforting, nostalgic, old-fashioned, sad, embarrassing, appalling, insulting, disgusting
Psychology / Sociology ○ the world of teenage boys ○ outsider by nature or by decision ○ bullying ○ gender roles, gender relations	○ language and/or physical activity ○ to prove oneself, competitiveness... ○ identity crisis – (in-)tolerance ○ identity through (dis-)approval, group identity ○ typically male / female character traits caricatures, stereotypes ['----] (tired old) clichés ['--]
Alex Rider ○ as a human ['--] ○ as a superhuman ○ as inhumane [--'] ○ as attractive and/or unattractive	○ (in-)decisive, (un-)afraid, courageous – cowardly ○ considerate, thoughtful – spontaneous, impulsive ○ healthy, well-coordinated, physically fit, athletic ○ perceptive, observant, suspicious of, aware of... ○ anti-social v socially-minded
Ready-made daydreams of ○ danger ○ violence ○ heroism ○ status	○ adventure, escape from everyday life ○ aggression, “fight or flight”, (mortal) fear ○ warmth, empathy, closeness, love ○ acceptance, approval, respect, recognition ○ self-confidence, self-esteem, pride, leadership