**Critical Review**

**Word limit: 750 words excluding reference list**

Write a critical review of the paper:

van den Nouwelant, R., Davison, G., Gurran, N., Pinnegar, S. & Randolph, B. (2015) Delivering affordable housing through the planning system in urban renewal contexts: converging government roles in Queensland, South Australia and New South Wales, *Australian Planner,* Vol. 52 (2) pp. 77-89. 10.1080/07293682.2014.914044. <https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/07293682.2014.914044>

The critical review is a task that asks you to summarise and evaluate a text. It is not a summary of a text. The critical review can be of a chapter or a journal article. Writing the critical review usually requires you to read the selected text in detail and to also read few related texts used in the course so that you can present a fair evaluation of the selected text. You should read a minimum of THREE closely related literature (journal paper, book chapter etc.) and provide a comprehensive view.

It requires you to question the information and opinions in a text and present your evaluation or judgement of the text. You should attempt to understand the topic from different perspectives and in relation to the approaches, frameworks and theories in your course or discipline.

Decide the strengths and weaknesses of a text. Analysing requires separating the content and concepts of a text into their main components and then understanding how these interrelate, connect and possibly influence each other.

The structure of the critical review could be as below.

### Introduction

The length of an introduction is usually one paragraph for a journal article review and two paras for a substantial book chapter. Present the aim of the text and summarise the main finding or key argument. Conclude the introduction with a brief statement of your evaluation of the text. This can be a positive or negative evaluation or, as is usually the case, a mixed response.

### Summary

Present a summary of the key points along with a limited number of examples. You can also briefly explain the author’s purpose/intentions throughout the text. The summary should only make up about a third of the critical review.

### Critique

The critique should be a balanced discussion and evaluation of the strengths, weakness and notable features of the text. Remember to base your discussion on specific criteria. Good reviews also include other sources used in the course to support your evaluation.

Below is an example of how to sequence your critique.

1. Most important to least important conclusions you make about the text.
2. If there are both strengths and weakness you need to decide overall what your judgement is. For example, you may want to comment on a key idea in the text and have both positive and negative comments.
3. For very short critical reviews (one page or less) where your comments will be briefer, include a paragraph of positive aspects and another of negative.

### Conclusion

This is usually a very short paragraph.

1. Restate your overall opinion of the text.
2. If required some further qualification or explanation of your judgement can be included. This can help your critique sound fair and reasonable.

Please check UniSA Study Help website for more information on writing critical issues. There is also a short video on critical review of journal articles.

<https://lo.unisa.edu.au/mod/book/view.php?id=1144638&chapterid=167269>