

# **Notebook Entry #14 – “The Best” Topic Outline**

**The Best \_\_\_\_\_ Is / Are \_\_\_\_\_**

## **I. Benefits**

### **A. Characteristics**

**1.**

**2.**

**3.**

**4.**

### **B.**

**1.**

**2.**

**3.**

**4.**

## **II. Drawbacks**

### **A.**

### **B.**

# **The Best Books Are Fantasies**

## **I. Benefits**

### **A. Characteristics**

- 1. Whole new worlds**
- 2. Imaginative characters**
- 3. Exciting conflicts**
- 4. Magical elements**

### **B. Variety of types**

- 1. Heroic fantasy – chronicles the tales of heroes in imaginary lands**
- 2. Science fantasy – subgenre of fantasy and science fiction**
- 3. Dark fantasy – elements of horror and fantasy**
- 4. Modern fantasy**

## **II. Drawbacks**

### **A. Often long**

### **B. Sometimes hard to keep the characters straight**

### **C. Unusual locations may be difficult to visualize**

## **Notebook Entry #16 – “The Best” Sentence Outline**

### **The Best Books are Fantasies**

- I. Books in the fantasy genre are the best ones to read.**
  - A. First of all, fantasy books have many great characteristics.**
    - 1. They can open up whole new worlds to the reader—worlds created right out of the author’s imagination.**
    - 2. You can also find a myriad of inspiring characters in fantasy literature—from the sword carry rodents in the *Redwall* series, to tree-eating cars in the Harry Potter books, to a unicorn that turns into a beautiful maiden in *The Last Unicorn*.**
    - 3. In addition, there is never a shortage of exciting conflicts involving wizards and spells or evil witches who are trying to keep little girls from returning home.**
    - 4. And don’t forget the magical elements that can be found in fantasy literature including all sorts of spells and enchantments and special powers like invisibility, time travel, and flight.**
  - B. Another one of the benefits of reading fantasy books is the variety of genres within that category.**
    - 1. For instance, heroic fantasy chronicles the tales of heroes in imaginary lands.**

- 2. Science fantasy is a subgenre of fantasy and science fiction and blends the two together.**
- 3. Dark fantasy combines elements of horror with fantasy.**
  - a. This includes titles such as *The Darkest Part of the Forest* by Holly Black.**
  - b. The book *Cruel Beauty* by Rosamond Hodge would also fall under this category.**
- 4. Moreover, there is the subgenre of modern fantasy that intertwines fantastical elements into the contemporary world.**

**II. Of course, there are a few drawbacks to fantasy books.**

- A. For one, these books often tend to be rather long.**
- B. Another problem that one may encounter is that there are sometimes so many characters—especially with unusual names—that it can be hard to keep track of them all.**
- C. Finally, the unusual settings are sometimes difficult to visualize unless you are reading the work of a really talented writer who can describe the story's location in vivid detail.**