

Talking about stories



1. Complete the email with the words below. There two extra words.

believable dialogue evocative happy humour
identify intriguing love mystery pace

 To: casey@email.com

Hi Casey.

Thanks for the book. I like novels with a fast _____ and an _____ plot, and that novel had both. And even though I don't usually like a _____ ending, it wasn't sentimental at all. There was a lot of _____ in it too - I laughed out loud several times!

Anyway, it's my turn and I'm sending you *Parallel*, by Lauren Miller. It's about a girl who wakes up one day in a different life and then has to solve the _____ of how she got there. The character of the girl (Rory) is very _____, and you can easily _____ with her. Her _____ interest is a handsome but slightly annoying boy called North. I really hope you enjoy it - I'm putting it in the post today.

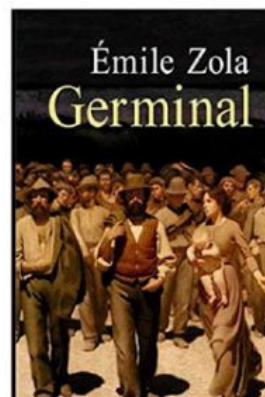
Happy reading!

Katerina

2. Choose the correct words to complete the book review.

GERMINAL

Émile Zola's masterpiece *Germinal* is **set/written** in the poor French mining village of Montsou in the mid-1800s. The novel **hinges/opens** as a young man, Étienne Lantier, arrives one cold March day. He stays, and soon feels outrage at the poor villagers' desperate lives. As the story **unfolds / is written**, Étienne leads a miners' strike, which is brutally repressed. **Central/ Drawn** to the plot is the theme of how the poor are exploited by the powerful, but the novel has many interesting **points of view / twists and turns**, and the characters are beautifully **set/ drawn**. Although the **action / narrative** is written in the third person, Zola's **portrayal / point of view** of Étienne is vivid and memorable.



3. Match the adjectives below with the words and phrases. There are two extra words.

chilling compelling evocative humorous predictable
slow-moving thought-provoking unconvincing

1. "Nasty and frightening." _____
2. "Unbelievable". _____
3. "Unsurprising" _____
4. "Amusing" _____
5. "Addictive reading" _____
6. "It really makes you think" _____