

Essay Peer Review

Instructions: (1) Prior to exchanging papers, complete each of these steps as instructed. (2) Once completed, exchange papers with your peer. (3) Read your peer's paper aloud to him or her. (4) Mark any areas that clunk or that are unclear. (5) Complete the check list, checking only those items that meet the requirement. (6) Finally, discuss your responses with the author.

1. Underline the **subjects** (with one line) and **verbs** (with two lines) in your first two paragraphs.
2. In the margin, indicate which pattern your sentences fit. You'll need your punctuation pattern sheet.
3. Highlight your thesis statement.
4. Highlight the topic sentence for each body paragraph
 - Is it in your voice?
 - Does it directly relate to your thesis?
5. Highlight the signal phrase for each quotation.
 - Have you introduced the full title and the author's full name the first time you used the source?
 - Are the remaining examples properly cited? Signal phrase, quotation, parenthetical citation, etc.
6. Place square brackets [] around your analysis of the examples

Name: _____ Reviewer: _____

Title

- Title is original, informative, and engaging
- Title reveals your attitude toward the subject.

Introductory Paragraph

- Introduces the overall subject of the essay.
- Presents the specific issue of the subject to be discussed.
- Establishes a specific and focused thesis relative to the subject chosen.

Body Paragraphs

- Each body paragraph has a topic sentence that responds to the thesis.
- Each sentence in the body paragraph relates to the topic sentence and applies to the thesis
- Each body paragraph provides an appropriate quote from the source (essay).
- Each body paragraph provides careful discussion/analysis of the example from the source, connecting the entire paragraph back to the thesis.
- Each body paragraph uses transitions between ideas and paragraphs

Concluding Paragraph

- Links back to the introduction and the thesis statement
- Summarizes main points
- Offers no new material or ideas.

Attention to the Details

- Paper uses 3rd person. **No 2nd person (you, your).**
- Titles are punctuated according to MLA Format: articles in quotation marks; books and films in italics.
- Parenthetical citations and correct and punctuated in MLA format.
- Works cited page is in correct MLA format. (See the assignment for correct format.)
- Sources are correctly introduced and discussed in the PRESENT tense.
- Signal phrases introduce **ALL** borrowed ideas whether quoted, summarized, or paraphrased.

Syntax/Grammar/Punctuation

- Grammar is correct. Subjects & Verbs Agree, Pronouns & Antecedents Agree. Refer to *Least*.
- Sentences are punctuated correctly, especially commas. Refer to Punctuation Pattern Sheet
- Awkward and Wordy constructions eliminated. Refer to *Least* and the class **handout**.
 - Omit filler phrases: "it is," "there is," and "there are" from sentence beginning
 - Omit "this" from sentence beginning
 - Omit "which" or "that" altogether (if possible).
 - Replace passive verbs with active verbs. In passive constructions, the subject of the sentence is being acted upon; in active constructions, the subject is the actor.
 - Replace "is," "are," "was," "were," or "have + an -ing word" to a simple present or past tense verb.
 - Replace "should," "would," or "could" with strong verbs.

STAPLE THIS PAGE ON TOP OF THE ESSAY!