

Peer Critique Response for Essay 1: Writing an Analysis of An Argument

Reader's Name:		Writer's Name:	
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Directions:

Read your group member's essay draft, adding your individual comments and answers to the questions below directly on the draft. Budget your time (approx. 25 mins.) so that you are able to cover all these areas in writing. Verbally discuss only what you think are the most pressing concerns below. **Do not get bogged down in correcting grammar and punctuation.** Just tell the writer that s/he has serious grammar or punctuation problems and needs to edit very carefully before submitting the final draft.

ESSAY STRUCTURE CHECKLIST	YES	NO
1. Is the essay draft at least 3 pages long? (Final draft must be exactly 3 pages.)		
2. The introductory ¶ uses 3-4 sentences that summarize what the target essay is about.		
3. The introductory ¶ establishes the purpose of the essay (it might be separate from the thesis).		
4. The writer and essay title are correctly introduced and identified.		
5. Each main body ¶ begins with a topic sentence .		
6. Does each main body ¶ start with a clear topic sentence that unifies the paragraph? (Be critical here and indicate weak topic sentences on the draft.)		
7. Each topic sentence identifies a clear criteria by which the analyzed essay is to be judged (claim, various forms of support, warrant(s)).		
8. All main body ¶s are unified (do not stray from the topic sentence) and develop only the stated criteria.		
9. Each main body ¶ has at least 2-3 (or more) specific, concrete examples from the text.		
10. Does the main body section contain at least 4 ¶s?		
11. Does each main body ¶ end with a concluding sentence that brings closure to the paragraph? (Indicate weak or missing concluding sentences on the draft.)		
12. Do the parenthetical notations have any errors?		
13. The Works Cited page uses correct MLA format (hanging ¶s, alphabetized, double-spaced, etc.)		
14. Does the writer need to edit for grammar and punctuation to improve readability?		

Address the following content and development areas of the essay draft and write your responses directly on the draft:

15. Descriptively explain how the writer can improve the introductory ¶. (Establishing the subject? Hook? Thesis? More general development?)
16. Assess the *quality* of the **thesis**: Comment on how well it asserts *its own value claim* and whether it can be reworded for even better precision and clarity. (It must be located in the last sentence of the introductory ¶.)
17. Evaluate the sentence development in each main body ¶. Comment on the **topic sentences** that are particularly *weak* or *effective*. **Write your response after each main body ¶.**
18. **Comment on how well the author addresses the 3 areas of the target essay's argument:**
 - a. **Claim**
 - b. **Support**
 - c. **Warrant(s)**
19. What could make the main body ¶s **more coherent** and flow more smoothly? (Is there enough supporting evidence? Are more examples needed? Do transitions appear between sentences and ¶s?) **Write your response after each main body ¶.**
20. **On the draft**, specifically identify where the essay drifts, digresses, or goes off on a tangent (if at all).
21. Finally, **on the draft**, offer some comments about what works well and why in this person's essay from your point of view as a reader.
22. On a scale of 1 - 6, rate the *content* of this draft: **(poor) 1 2 3 4 5 6 (excellent)**