

Peer feedback on _____'s research essay, by _____

- Read a draft all the way through **before** you begin to comment on it.
- Point out the **strengths** of the draft.
- When discussing areas that need improvement, be nice. Offer **appropriate, constructive comments** from a reader's point of view.
- Before giving your written comments to the author, **reread your comments to make sure they are clear and make sense.**
- **Be respectful and considerate** of the writer's feelings.
- **Use "I" statements.**
- **Offer suggestions, not commands.**
- **Raise questions** from a reader's point of view, points that may not have occurred to the writer.
- Make sure comments are **specific** (not "This paper is confusing. It keeps saying the same things over and over again" but rather "It sounds like paragraph five makes the same point as paragraphs 2 and 3.").
- Avoid turning the writer's paper into YOUR paper.

What is the author's main point?

What did you particularly like?

Could you follow the paper? If there were places where you got lost, identify them in the margins

Evaluate the introduction. What strategy does the author use to introduce the essay? Does the introduction lead effectively into the paper? What about the conclusion?

Are there any places where the paper seems to stray off-topic?

Is there any point at which you want more information?

Check the paper for coherence. Are appropriate transitions used within and between paragraphs? If there is a place at which you aren't sure how the ideas are connected, point it out to the author.

Are the sources integrated smoothly into the flow of the paper? If there is a place where you think a source might be worked in more smoothly, identify it. If too many paragraphs features several sentences that begin with "According to," work on integrating that source in some other way.

Are the parenthetical citations clear and accurately tied to the Works Cited entries? Is everything that comes from a source clearly identified, whether it is summarized or quoted? If no author is mentioned in the sentence, does the parenthetical citation have (author page)? If an author is tagged in the sentence, does the parenthetical have (page)?

Proofread the paper for errors. **Do not make any corrections unless you are absolutely sure about the correct grammar and conventions**, but note any grammatical or mechanical errors in the margins of the paper.