



Peer Response Language

Delivering Feedback

Peer review works best when reviewers share what worked well and what did not. Here are some examples to help you give thorough, thoughtful, kind feedback. Use the templates by filling in the (blanks) with your thoughts/reactions.

Discussing strengths:

- “I thought your draft did (blank) well.”
- “I liked it when you used (blank) to accomplish (blank).”
- “I thought the use of (blank) was great, especially when (blank).”
- “(Blank) parts of the argument were very strong.”
- “As a reader (blank) helped me to (blank).”

Discussing opportunities for improvement:

- “The section that said (blank) confused me. Maybe this can be clarified by (blank).”
- “Did you consider using (blank) instead of (blank)?”
- “I wasn’t sure how (blank) and (blank) connected. What did you mean?”
- “Given (blank), I had expected (blank).”
- “As a reader, I thought you meant (blank), but that wasn’t the case. Can you clarify?”
- “I didn’t feel like the paper addressed (blank) in the assignment.”

Where to Focus

In the early stages of drafting, it is usually most helpful to focus on the big picture. We suggest looking at grammar in the final editing stages, unless grammar problems affect the clarity of the paper.

Focus on:

- Clear thesis statement
- Logical organization
- Effective use of evidence
- Analysis

Do not worry as much about:

- Grammar
- Punctuation and spelling
- Formatting

Analyzing a Writing Assignment

The easiest way to mess up a writing assignment is to not understand the assignment. Consider these questions. They can help to make sure both you and your peer reviewers are clear about the assignment and its expectations.

What is the genre of this writing?

- What characteristics does this writing often exhibit?
- Does it contain a particular type of language?
- Does it contain a particular style of organization?

Who is the audience?

- What is already known about this audience?
- What does the audience already know about this subject?
- What expectations might the audience have?

What is the purpose of the assignment?

- To convince someone of a point?
- To inform the reader of something?
- To apply for a job?
- Is the purpose for this piece of writing clear to the reader?

Two situations to consider:

1. Of the writer:
 - Where is my writing place?
 - How familiar am I with this genre?
2. Of the writing:
 - Researching, due dates, citations, format, timeline, materials

Need more information or assistance?

Schedule an appointment with the [Excel Multiliteracy Center](#). We are here to provide one-on-one and group assistance to any and all UCCS students!