

Revision Workshop #2

Writer: _____ Reader(s): _____

Peer revision of an essay is an excellent way to get an outside perspective on where you are in the writing process. As the writer you often get “too close” to the draft and may miss significant elements of your paper that may need revision. Do not take the criticism from a peer as a personal affront: use the criticism as a way to see your paper through new eyes. You, as the writer, will decide whether and to what extent to use the peer recommendations that you receive. Some suggestions you may implement others you may consider and throw out.

This workshop is mostly focused on in-text citation information and form; integration of sources; synthesis of your ideas and source ideas; and a Works Cited page in proper form. Use the feedback from this workshop to create a nearly final draft. (See your handouts and the handbook.)

As a peer reviewer, be tactful with your comments and try to balance positive and negative feedback. Don't correct errors that you find: just point them out and possibly provide a note of explanation. Be specific with your comments. Write notes and comments directly on the draft. In the spaces provided on this workshop sheet write general reactions.

Workshop Instructions

1. Read through this assignment sheet to familiarize yourself with the complete workshop guidelines.
2. Read through the paper a first time to get a general feel for the paper. Pay special attention to the ideas expressed. Next, read through the paper and follow the specific instructions below.
3. Suggest a different title here or on the draft. Is the title in its proper place?
4. How does the writer hook the reader? Suggestion(s).
5. What is the general topic of this paper according to the introduction? Does this need to be more clearly stated? Suggestions.
6. Do you need more, or less, background information in the introduction? What questions do you have?

7. What problem is presented in the introduction? Who is affected? How are they affected? Suggestions.

8. What is the importance of the issue? Why should readers care? What are negative consequences if the issue is not resolved? What are benefits if the issue is resolved? Suggestions.

9. Underline the thesis of the paper. Is the thesis stated clearly and specifically? Suggestions.

10. Use the following questions for **each** body paragraph. Does each body paragraph have a clear topic sentence and evidence from sources to support it? Is the paragraph clearly part of a synthesis or a refutation? Does the key point of the paragraph clearly support the thesis? Is credit given to each source in an in-text citation including **tag phrases, transitions, page numbers, and author's last name (if not tagged)**? Have quotations been used and documented properly? Use marginal comments on the draft for suggestions.

11. Evaluate the conclusion. Is there a reference to the thesis? What is the main element of the conclusion? Suggestions.

12. Check the Works Cited page. Is the author's name and a page number in the upper right corner of the page? Is the title "Works Cited" centered at the top of the page before the first entry (no quotation marks)? Are the entries placed in alphabetical order in the proper format? (See handbook works cited page example.)

13. Is the paper in proper MLA format? Everything is simply **double spaced**. Is the writer's last name and a page number in the upper right corner of each page? Does page 1, in the upper left corner, include the author's name, the course, the instructor's name, and the date?(See handbook example paper and Typing Guidelines.)

14. Has the writer proofread carefully? Point out and explain problems in marginal comments but don't correct them.

15. Write a general reaction to the paper. What is well done? What needs work?