

PEER EDITING FEEDBACK SHEETS

Reflective Story

Reflective Paper Writer: _____

Peer Editor: _____

PART ONE: Read the directions and answer the following questions.

1. Read the reflective story, looking at spelling, grammar, sentence construction, general clarity of writing, etc. What needs to be improved?
2. Read the reflective paper for a second time
 - a. Are the thoughts well organized and the ideas logically developed? Please explain.
 - b. Does the paper/story communicate information about how well the author learned from the activities and experiences? Please explain.
 - c. Does the paper demonstrate the author's ability to think critically and independently? Please explain.
 - d. Does the paper communicate how the author has grown in knowledge, in the ability to think and evaluate from their "good" experience? Please explain.
 - e. Does the paper communicate how the author felt about the experience and why they felt that way? Please explain.
 - f. Any other suggestions for improvements?
 - g. How clear is the plot and are the events in a logical order? If not, where are their problems? What part of the story is confusing? What could the writer do to improve the flow of events in this story?
 - h. Is the story descriptive enough? As a reader, do you hear, see, feel, taste, touch the same things that they do? Are you there with the author? Please explain
3. Is this story set in the future? Is the setting described well with sensory details? Where could the writer put in more details? What is unclear about the time or place of this story?
4. Who are the major characters? Are they developed fully? What other information could be included about them in order to make them seem more believable or real?
5. Are the minor characters moving the plot along or giving important information about one of the major characters?
6. Is there a definite theme? What is it?
7. Is there a flashback in which the characters remember something? Is past tense used?
8. Is there any other way to improve the stylistic sophistication of the writing? For example, do the transitions help the story to flow more naturalistically? Are the sentence types varied to convey subtle messages about the pace of the story in different places?
9. Are the components of a short story present? If so, explain where each part fits into the story.

Part Two: Circle what you believe to be the correct response to the paper.

Lead hooks the reader **OR** Lead is there, but weak **OR** Lead is boring and predictable

Good placement of details **OR** Some details seem out of place **OR** Most details seem out of place

Strong transitions **OR** Some transitions are strong, while others are weak **OR** Transitions are absent or weak

Smooth, easy pace **OR** Reader can follow pace most of the time **OR** Reader gets lost

Strong conclusion **OR** Conclusion is there, but weak **OR** Stops all of a sudden or drags on too long

Has a clear purpose **OR** Purpose isn't always clear **OR** Purpose is unclear--seems to have no point

Builds up interest **OR** Some important details and some unimportant details **OR** Filled with unimportant details

Strong sensory detail and description **OR** some sensory detail and description **OR** Little to no use of sensory detail.

Part Three: Circle what you believe to be the correct response to the paper.

Read each rough draft carefully, making comments as necessary in the margins of the essay. Try to keep a balance between positive comments and constructive criticism, remembering that too much of the first is useless and too much of the second is harmful. We are all working together to improve our writing; there is always a way to criticize without being hurtful. After commenting on the essay, answer the following questions on a separate piece of paper and attach it to the original draft:

- * **PURPOSE:** What is the writer trying to accomplish in this story?
- * **THESIS:** Is the story line clear? If not, what is unclear and how could the introduction be improved?
- * **TRANSITION:** Is there an easy flow to the story? Does one paragraph move smoothly into the next?
- * **CONTINUITY:** Does the story stick to plot, or does it wander far afield?
- * **MECHANICS:** Are there any mechanical errors that occur frequently?
- * **RESULTS:** Does the story accomplish what it sets out to do?

Give specific comments on specific elements, noting areas where you are confused and pointing out sections that work especially well. Be honest. Think to yourself: what would I like to know about improving this essay, if it were mine?

NOTE: You must answer these questions on a separate piece of paper, for every rough draft you read. You must also make a copy of every peer sheet you fill out, to be handed in. Peer editing is an important part of your grade; your editing sheets will help us evaluate your work in this area.