

Lesson Plan for Peer Review Workshop

- 1) **Lesson Objectives**
 - a) Encourage students to reflect on their previous peer review experiences
 - b) Model acceptable peer review responses
 - c) Engage in peer review conferences using the discussion board on Canvas
- 2) **Two days before peer review workshop.**
 - a) At the end of class, I will tell the students that they will be receiving instructions on how to prepare for the peer review workshop. These instructions will be distributed as an announcement on Canvas. I will take some time to show them the announcement before I send it out to ask if they have questions (see Appendix for preparation instructions).
 - b) I will use Canvas to set up randomized groups comprising 4 students each. These groups will be the peer review discussion board groups for the peer review workshop during class.
- 3) **Discovery Activity (Day of class).**
 - a) In small groups, students will be prompted to discuss their previous experiences with peer review. They will focus on what both went well and what went poorly with these experiences. This will be done to help them distill characteristics of what makes a good peer review. We will discuss these characteristics as a class (see 4).
- 4) **Discussion of Good Peer Response Attributes**
 - a) I will give the students a chance to voice their thoughts on a good peer response.
 - b) Following their answers, I will use PPT slides to reveal the specific characteristics of good peer response that I would like to emphasize.
- 5) **Good Peer Response Samples**
 - a) The students will be giving written peer feedback through discussion board posts on Canvas. I will use PPT slides to show three good examples of written peer feedback. I will point out structural and content features that make the good peer feedback responses. The student will have access to the slides on campus to refer the examples as needed when they are writing their feedback.
- 6) **Peer Review Workshop.**
 - a) I will direct students to use their laptops to access the peer review discussion board assignment.
 - b) I will tell them to upload their peer review drafts as a discussion board post. Only their fellow group members will be able to see the posts.
 - c) I will go over further instructions for the students to help them fulfill their role as reviewers. This will be posted in the discussion board assignment description and on the PPT slides (see Appendix for peer reviewer instructions).
 - d) I will organize the students into the groups previously created on Canvas. They will be asked to review papers for at least one other member of their group. If they review two, they can get a few points of extra credit for the assignment. They will decide among themselves who is reviewing who.
 - e) Students will have until the end of class to review their peers' papers. If they do not finish during class, they will have until 11:59 pm to finish on their own time.
 - f) They will be instructed to post their peer feedback as reply to their peer's original post containing the uploaded draft.

Appendix

Instructions for Peer Review Preparation

Procedures for Preparing for Peer Review. Complete these procedures before our next class.

- Access Major Writing Assignment 1 on Canvas and carefully read the overview and the rubric.
- Quickly review your own paper to make sure that it addresses every part of the prompt and rubric. Make notes for yourself about revision, and see what you feel are your strongest and weakest points.
- Before the beginning of your peer review draft, write down 3 to 4 areas of your essay that concern you. These concerns should be based on expectations for the assignment outlined in the assignment overview and rubric. Additionally, you should express your concerns in the form of requests (questions for your peer reviewer to think about) that focus on issues related to content and organization (grammar issues should be addressed later). You must make at least three requests (no more than four) and one of your requests should be the following:
 1. Is my thesis clear and is it appropriate for the assignment? Why or why not?
- Highlight your requests in yellow so your reviewer can quickly find them.
- Be prepared to share your draft electronically during our next class.

As you write your requests, it may be helpful to consider the topics we have covered in class related to essay structure. These topics may help you focus on the most important features of your essay as you write your requests:

Topics to Consider for your Peer Review Requests

Introduction Paragraph: background information related to both subject, thesis, points of discussion (foreshadowing)

Body Paragraphs: topic sentences, supporting ideas, details, concluding sentences, unity (everything fits well in paragraph and in the essay as a whole), cohesion (transitions and flow)

Concluding Paragraph: restatement of thesis, restatement of discussion points, final implication

Instructions for Peer Reviewer

- Read the writer's note with their requests. Ask any follow up questions you may have about the requests.
- Read the paper twice – once without making any notes, and again to take notes for responding to the author's requests.
- Write a letter to the writer (150- 200 words at least) responding to the author's requests using your notes. Make sure it reflects your understanding of their requests. Post your letter as a reply to the author's initial post containing the Google Doc link.
- Your letter to the writer should include the following:
 - A response to the requests they made (show that you understood the requests and are responding to them).
 - At least one specific comment with examples in response to each request. Give comments as a *reader*, not a teacher.
 - At least one comment about a strength of the paper.