
Peer Review Guide

Directions:

You will work together with your writing group during the entire class session. Begin the workshop by introducing your topic, your image, and where you are in the writing process. Choose a portion of your full draft to read to your group and ask for their feedback. Take notes on what others say about your work so that you can incorporate their comments as you revise for the next draft.

As you listen to your fellow writers read their text, listen for their “voice” as a writer. Do you hear them saying something new and insightful about the image? If not, encourage them to engage more with their writing and take some ownership. (Let’s avoid boring one another) 😊

Here are a bunch of questions to guide you with feedback:

The sound of the writing

- Is the first line compelling?
- What’s the title? Do you like it?
- Describe the “sound” of the writing? How about the rhythm? Does it need some variety?
- Do you hear the writer’s voice? How so and where?

The sense of the writing

- Does everything you hear make sense? To test this, see whether you can easily summarize what the writer read.
- Do you have enough description and interpretation of the image?
- Are there any “Aha” lines in the text?
- What’s the thesis? Where is it in the text? Does it work?
- How are the sources? Are they good ones? Are they well integrated? Do they dangle or seem to be forced into the writing?
- Does the writer understand the larger context of the image? Anything missing or misconceived?

The sophistication of the writing

- Is the writing lively without being sappy?
- Is it concise without being short and choppy?
- Is it smart without being overly academic?

*To receive participation credit for this workshop, post a summary and evaluation of the feedback you received from other writer’s in your group AND a paragraph or bullet points stating/outlining your revision plan for the next draft. Post this as a response to your full draft. **Please indicate whether you would like for Alysia and me to give you comments on the draft you posted today or whether you would like to make some revisions and then post another draft for us to review.***