

## Peer and/or Proofreading Response

These questions are designed to guide the interaction with your group members as they discuss your draft with you. If your group members do not perceive the meaning and purpose of your draft according to your intentions, then you will want to make revisions that will improve the text's rhetorical effectiveness. We will probably use this as a standard peer response sheet throughout the course. Hopefully using these questions to address your peers' drafts, will eventually lead to meticulous methodical proofreading of your own drafts.

1. **Assignment/Topic:** Does the draft fulfill the requirements of the assignment? How might the writer better fulfill them? If the topic is free of the constraints of a formal assignment, will it generate discourse?
2. **Title and Introduction:** Is the title appropriate for the text? Does the introduction gain the reader's interest, establish common ground, and establish the writer's ethos?
3. **Thesis and Purpose:** Paraphrase the thesis as a promise: "In this essay, the author will . . . ." Does the draft fulfill that promise? Is the writer's purpose clear? Does the draft effectively address the author's purpose?
4. **Audience:** Who is the audience? Describe the characteristics. How does the draft appeal to that audience? What does the writer expect from her or his audience?
5. **Persona:** Does the author successfully create an identifiable persona? Is the persona suitable for the text? Mark specific places where the writer's voice vividly emerges. Is this the persona that the writer intends to create?
6. **Exigence:** What is the situation (or context) that calls for this writer's rhetorical transaction? What needs does this text address? What does the writer have stuck in his or her craw?
7. **Rhetorical Stance:** Does the writer reveal an apparent stand on issues involved with this topic? What words or phrases in the draft indicate the values the writer holds with regard to this topic? How does the writer connect his or her cause to the interests of the audience? If the audience is opposed to the author's stance, does the author convincingly present his or her position?
8. **Supporting Points:** Which point is the writer's strongest? Which points are of most interest to you? List the points in order of strength. Which of them require further elaboration? Which points require more evidence, examples, or details? Are any of the supporting points irrelevant or insignificant?
9. **Paragraphs:** Are the paragraphs clear and fully developed? Are transitions between sentences effective, providing cohesion?

**OVER PLEASE**

10. **Organization:** Is the form the most appropriate for the topic? Is the organization suitable and effective for the genre? Consider or discuss possible alternatives. Does the author place his or her points in the most effective and logical order (usually the strongest last)? Are the transitions between paragraphs effective?
11. **Sentence Structure:** Has the writer incorporated a variety of sentence structures including the appropriate use of subordination and coordination? Does the writer employ loose and periodic sentences effectively? Does the writer achieve appropriate emphasis through diction and sentence structure? If the writer deviates from conventional structures, is the deviation rhetorically effective?
12. **Style and Linguistic Choices:** Does the writer use the most appropriate style for the topic? Should it be formal or informal? Does the author employ a wide-ranging vocabulary, using more complex Latinate and simpler Anglo-Saxon words when appropriate for rhetorical effect? Does the writer primarily use active verbs? If the writer uses passive verbs for rhetorical effect, does he or she use them properly? Does the writer successfully utilize schemes and tropes to develop images and meaning?
13. **Tone:** What dominant impression does the draft create--serious, humorous, satirical, persuasive, argumentative, objective? Is the tone appropriate to the topic, persona, and audience? Is it consistent? Is this the tone the writer intended to convey?
14. **Conclusion:** Is the conclusion powerful and memorable? Does it simply restate the introduction? How else might this draft end?
15. **Overall:** What are the main strengths and weaknesses of this draft? As a reader, how have you been impacted by reading this paper? Are there things you want to know more about? Is this paper meaningful and purposeful? As a member of the audience, has this draft fulfilled the author's expectations?