

WRIT 320 – PEER REVIEW: Analytical Research Paper

Reviewer of the paper: _____

Writer of paper: _____

Instructions

- 1) Read all the questions below so you can be aware of what to look for as you read.
- 2) Read your peer's draft, making marginal notes with your word processor's comment features.
 - a. Note grammatical errors. (Try to identify the problem without fixing it for the writer.)
 - b. Note stylistic problems (e.g., lack of clarity) and successes (e.g., engaging phrases).
 - c. Ask critical questions or make critical observations from the perspectives of both believers and doubters. (Try to make at least one critical remark for each paragraph.)
- 3) After reading the whole paper, complete the rest of this document. While you do not need to answer all the questions in each section, do try to give a paragraph of feedback in each area.
- 4) Return the marked-up draft and this peer-review form to your classmate.

A. The grammar and style of writing should be formal, but engaging.

Is the writing style both clear and engaging?

Does the writer convey the proper academic voice (i.e., authoritative, objective, etc.)?

Do you see any recurrent grammatical or stylistic problems? (If so, what are they?)

What is the strongest paragraph in terms of style and clarity?

What is the weakest paragraph in terms of style and clarity?

B. The thesis and focus of the paper should be compelling and engaging.

What is the paper's thesis? (If you can't identify it, tell the writer.)

Is the thesis and focus of the paper relevant to the assigned topic(s)?

Does the thesis need demonstration or would most readers take it for granted? (Explain)

How might the thesis be made stronger (more detail, different emphasis, etc.)?

Does the writer provide an engaging introduction to the thesis? (How could it be improved?)

C. The organization and development of ideas should demonstrate the thesis.

- Are the key parts of the thesis treated sufficiently in the body of the paper?
- Are there clear and effective section headings?
- Does the organization of the overall paper seem effective for supporting the thesis?
- Are there any paragraphs or sections that do not seem to relate to the thesis?
- Does the conclusion discuss implications of the thesis or just repeat key points from the body?
- What are the strongest and weakest paragraphs in terms of ideas?

D. Outside sources should support the overall demonstration of the thesis.

- Are there any claims or observations that could be better supported by research? (Explain.)
- Do any sources seem irrelevant, biased, or otherwise without credibility?
- Does the writer properly introduce outside sources, explaining their credibility and relevance?
- Does the writer effectively analyze and critique sources, or just summarize them?
- Does the writer effectively synthesize and explain the various sources to add something not already found in the sources themselves?

TYPE COMMENTS HERE

E. The formatting and documentation style should follow APA guidelines.

- Does the paper follow proper APA formatting guidelines? (If not, what is wrong?)
- Does the writer cite outside sources using proper APA in-text citation and quotation formatting?
- Is a References page provided at the end of the paper for every source cited in the body?
- Are the References-page entries properly formatted?
- Does the References page cite sources not used in the body of the paper?