

## Peer Review for Essay 2

Your options:

### **I have at least two copies of my paper with me today.**

Great! Please exchange both copies with two peers so that you wind up with two papers to read and have handed out two copies. Then, with your peers, decide the following:

1. Use class time today to read and respond to the questions on the back of this page. You may stay in the classroom or go to the library/Learning Center to use the computers, as long as you arrange a way to exchange.
2. Arrange to return the paper and your comments at the beginning of class on Thursday.
3. Arrange to e-mail each other your comments in the next few days (set a deadline that works for everyone in your group).
4. Complete the Peer Review After Review (directions below).

### **I do not have my paper with me today.**

Okay! Why not?

#### **I'm not finished with my paper yet:**

Then please do the following:

1. Talk with me in person or e-mail me as soon as possible so we can work through whatever's going on. You could also use class time today to visit the Writing Center, where an assistant could help with the brainstorming process or with making the paper longer.
2. When we talk, we'll set a date by which your draft must be ready. Finish a draft by then.
3. Post your completed draft to the Peer Review Forum in Week 7 and respond to at least two of your classmates' works there. (You can respond to work there before you've posted your own).
4. When you're finished, see the directions at the bottom of these instructions about the Peer Review After Review.

#### **I've had a technical difficulty and just didn't print my paper.**

See the instructions for "I have at least two copies," but arrange the exchange electronically with your peers.

**Peer Review After Review:** When you've received your peer reviews back, read through them, then follow the link in Week 7 on Moodle to the Peer Review After Review. You'll be asked to answer a few short questions about your peer review experience, including your reviewers' names. This is how I'll know the reviews were completed, so please don't skip this step.

**Peer Review for Second (Comparison) Essay | Name of author: \_\_\_\_\_**

**Development and Organization : You may use a separate sheet of paper to answer any questions.**

Hello, my name is \_\_\_\_\_ and I am your development and organization reviewer today. I will be looking at your paper to see how well organized it is, and I will be offering suggestions for further development or addition of details.

**I have underlined the thesis statement for this essay.** If there is not a clear thesis statement – which should describe both subjects that are being discussed and signal whether they will be compared, contrasted, or both -- I have written one sentence stating what is the main point of the essay on the back of this page.

In comparison essays, the author must choose either point-by-point or subject-by-subject structure. You chose: \_\_\_\_\_. If there is no obvious structure to your essay, I have written what structure I would suggest on a separate sheet.

In organizing an essay, it is often helpful and necessary to use transitional words and phrases to show the reader what's happening and to give them an idea of a timeline. Transitional words include "next," "first," and "however," and transitional phrases include things like "for example," "as a result," and "in conclusion." Using dates and times ("The next day," "an hour later,") can also signal a transition to a new point. Transitions can also show comparisons ("Like," "unlike," "Similarly," etc.). **I have underlined twice any transitional words or phrases that you've used.** Transitional phrases are often most necessary between paragraphs. **If there are no obvious transitions between the paragraphs, I've made suggestions for how to move smoothly from one point to another.**

**I have answered the following questions on a separate sheet of paper in complete sentences OR I have written you a letter that includes my response to the following questions. I have used specific examples from your paper to answer these questions and I have numbered the paragraphs (if necessary) to make my points clear.**

1. Does the introduction introduce the reason that the author wants to compare these two subjects? Do you understand what decision she or he is making? If not, what information should be added?
2. Did the author use point-by-point or subject by subject? Do you think this was a good choice? Why/why not?
3. Are there enough examples and details to make the comparison interesting, or is the paper dry in parts? Did you learn something from the comparison? If not, what would you like to see the author further explore? If so, what did you learn? Cite specific paragraphs as good examples or as places where more work is needed.
4. Do topic sentences and transitional words make the order and the comparison clear? Do you ever feel that one subject is getting more attention than the other? Where? Why?
5. Does the conclusion remind you, the reader, why the comparison was made in the first place?
6. What questions would you like to see the author answer in this essay?

**I understand that my work on this page will be reflected in my own grade on revision and peer editing, and I have engaged completely and enthusiastically with your work.**

**SIGN YOUR NAME HERE and ON THE PAPER YOU READ: \_\_\_\_\_**