

Instructor Guide for Peer Review Guide

(SPARK >> Pulling It Together >> Revising Your Arguments)

NOTE: Helpful for gaining instructive feedback on a draft from peers or others despite their lack of specialized knowledge of the topic.

Skills Addressed

- learning how to create questions to use when seeking feedback from others on one's writing
- identifying central features of an essay from a reader's point of view

Suggested Uses

- Independent student use:** Ask/suggest that students read resource on their own and decide for themselves when/if/how they will use resource
- Instructor-led Discussion:** Devote lecture/tutorial time to describing the resource, its purposes and uses, and/or incorporate description and use of resource into broader discussion focusing on building the skills the resource targets
- Small Group Discussion:** Use to stimulate informal class/tutorial discussion, and/or small group discussion

Feedback / Evaluation Options

- Personal reflection and/or self-assessment**
- Informally, in small group discussion:** Assign to students to complete for sharing and discussion in small groups
- Peer Evaluation:** Assign to students to complete independently, for more formal peer evaluation
- Instructor Evaluation:** Assign to students to complete independently, or as one stage of a larger assignment, and hand in for formal instructor evaluation
- Tracking Completion without Evaluating:** Assign to students to complete resource independently (on an ongoing basis, or at specific, appropriate times during the course), then hand in to instructor to track completion without assigning a specific grade to any individual completed resource
 - Tip: Instructors can ask students to submit drafts and redistribute these among the students together with the Peer Review Guide. These drafts and completed guides can then be returned to the appropriate writers. Instructors can track participation in the process.

Potential Customization

The form is meant to suggest appropriate questions to guide someone reviewing another person's essay draft. It also suggests formats for asking the questions. The same questions are repeated in different ways. Thus the form should be customized to suit the particular essay to be reviewed and the particular concerns of the author.