

Narrative Essay Peer Review Form

Author's Name _____

Peer Reviewer's Name _____

Instructions for Peer reviewer:

- Read the essay through once from beginning to end without making any comments to get the general story and controlling idea.
- Re-read the essay a second time; make notes on the essay itself and on this form in response to the questions listed below. If something is super cool, put a smiley! If you don't understand something, put a question mark.
- Circle, but do not correct, errors in spelling, grammar, and punctuation.
- When you return the essay to the author, go over this form together to explain your comments.

Narrative Strategies: In this draft essay, I notice the author uses (circle all that apply):

Sensory details Dialogue Interior monologue Suspense Humor Flashback Sarcasm
Hyperbole Humor towards a serious moment Tension built by a shift of tone Situational irony
Dramatic irony Verbal irony Reflection of wisdom gained Suspense Rhetorical questions Dialog
Conflict Climax Comparison Epiphany Extended metaphor Shock value Fantasy Poetic justice Parody
Paradox Red herring Point of view shift Dialect Slang Subplot Shift in tone

Main Ideas

Re-read the essay carefully, and ask yourself the following questions. If the answer to any of these is "no," suggest that the writer revise that part of the essay.

1. Does the **topic** the author has chosen really fit the prompt? Can the reader see that the author was striving for a specific goal? What was the goal?

2. Is the **main reflection** clear? Will most readers understand how the author grew or changed based on the experience described in this essay? In your own words, describe the main reflection.

Individual paragraphs

Introductory paragraph(s)

1. Does the author begin the story with a "**hook**" to grab the reader's interest? What is that hook?

2. (If a clear story is being told vs. a metaphor description) Does the author **STOP, BACK-UP** and **PROVIDE EXPOSITION** (tell the reader where and when the scene is set, who the characters in the story are, and how the author came to be involved in this situation)?

Body paragraphs

1. Do the body paragraphs move in **chronological order** through the events of the story?

2. Is there a **clear focus for each paragraph** and are there paragraph breaks at logical points, such as change of scene, time, or date? If one paragraph takes on multiple topics they need to fix that.

3. Does the action of the story build to a **clear climax**? Can the reader tell how it is resolved?

4. Are there **transitional sentences** at the beginning or the end of key paragraphs? If not, make a note on the essay where transitions are needed.

5. Is there **reflection at each major point in the story** so the reader understands what the author was thinking and feeling as the events unfolded? If not, make a note in the margin of the essay where reflection should be added.

Conclusion paragraph(s)

1. Does the writer explain why this experience is significant to him/her? Has the writer found a way to answer the “so what?” question? If not, how might the author make this idea clearer to the reader?

Summary:

List TWO things you felt were strong in the essay:

List ONE thing that the author could improve [BE CONSTRUCTIVE]: