

**PEER EDITING**

Goals for First Draft:

- Create an effective and interesting argument
- Develop that argument with:
  - authority
  - reasonableness
  - considering the other side
  - economy of expression (shortcuts)
  - powerful language
- Evidence
  - Keep your reader interested with cogent evidence
  - Incorporate evidence
    - personal experience
    - minimal research
    - description, summary, analysis
- Audience
  - Supply an individual perspective on a large social issue
  - Personalize the issue without alienating your reader
- Language
  - Convince readers of your opinion subtly
  - Create succinct paragraphs and sentences
  - Edit out any wordy or inappropriate sentences

**Reader:** *Put your name and e-mail address at the top of your partner's paper.* Read through your partner's draft silently. After you have read the draft once, go back through it and follow the below directions. (This draft with peer comments will be turned in with the final draft.)

1. Does the essay have a title? Does it say anything interesting about the essay? (If not, discuss with your partner.)
2. Re-write the argument in your own words. (If you do not understand the sentence or the argument, discuss it with your partner and try to come up with a clear thesis statement that is an argument.)
3. Who is the audience for this editorial? (Write this at the top of the page.) Ask your partner if this is the intended audience.
4. Are the assumptions being made fair and effective? (Write these assumptions on the last page and make your assessment.) Is the other side considered or acknowledged in some way?
5. Is the reader told what to think? (Use of "should" anywhere in the draft?)
6. Does the personal experience overwhelm the larger commentary? (If so, circle the point where the personal experience is extraneous or needs to be analyzed.)
7. Does each paragraph use details to explain the situation. (If more details are necessary, put a question mark in the margin where its needed.)
8. Does each paragraph offer something new to expand the argument or idea? (If not, put star in the margin where repetition or straying from the topic occurs.)
9. Does the writer use clear and powerful language to attract and interest the reader? (Correct any wordy sentences, inappropriate words, verb/subject disagreement, pronoun disagreement.)
10. If there is one, is the Works Cited properly formatted? If not, correct it.
11. To help your partner cut the editorial in half, mark an "x" through any paragraphs or elements of the editorial that are not necessary to the overall argument.