Giving Peer Feedback
Peer feedback: What is it and why give it?

What:

- Reviewing another’s writing to provide useful critical responses

Why:

- To help peers improve their paper and their writing in general
- To allow peers to see from reader’s point of view → fresh perspective
Mindset

Role

Peer

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Teacher/Judge

Qualities of a Great Reviewer

Attentive

Supportive

Honest
Starting Off

Question: What do you need?

Answers: evidence, ideas, argument, draft, write, proofreading, grammar, detail, thesis, focus, prompt, organizing, academic, attention, help, sure, assurance, format, style, audience
Responding as a Reader

Tell your peer what their paper made you think, feel, or how you relate.

Ask questions!
How to Give Good Feedback

- Written comments
- Conversations
- Describe or Analyze
- Summarize, Praise, Critique
- Constructive Comments
Example comments

**Not quite constructive:**

- Unclear
  - I’m not sure what your argument is in this paragraph – are these reasons to support or not support coffee bean farmers?

- Good
  - This is one of your strongest parts – your explanation of the evidence really helped this point come through to me

- Develop more
  - The economic impact that you mentioned here seems like a really important point, but there’s only one sentence about it here

**Constructive:**
Further Resources

- A Writer’s Reference
- Purdue OWL
- University of Wisconsin-Madison
For more help, visit the UAB University Writing Center

www.uab.edu/writingcenter

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