

Peer-Conferencing Tool for Expository Essays

Name of Writer:

Date:

Name of Reviewer:

Date:

Directions to the Reviewer

Read the draft. Make suggestions for improvement. Be specific. Consider the questions listed below. Jot down notes for your conference with the writer. Be prepared to share your responses.

What is the writer's purpose? Is it clear?

Is the topic too large to cover in this essay? If so, how can the writer narrow the topic and clearly define and sustain the thesis?

Does the introduction make me want to read the rest of the essay? If not, why?

Are the ideas presented logically and easy to follow? Is the organizational pattern clear? If so, what is it?

Are there places the author can strengthen sentences to connect ideas at the sentence and paragraph levels? Does the author effectively use transitions or need to add more?

Do you wish the author had included more information in some places? If so, where?

Does the writer use interesting, specific supporting details that add substance to the essay? What types of details (i.e., facts, reasons, examples, comparisons) are used to provide evidential support?

Does the author show, rather than tell, to explain the topic? If so, where?

Are there parts that could be left out (extraneous information)? If so, where?

Are there places where the writer could have used more purposeful and precise language? If so, what words do you suggest?

Are there any parts you found confusing? If so, what parts?

Does the conclusion bring closure to the essay? Does the writer leave you with a lasting impression?

Does the essay include a variety of sentence types?

What do you like best about the expository essay? Why?

What could the writer do to most improve this essay?

Are there spelling and grammatical errors?