

A Student Guide to . . .

Peer - Editing

So, the assignment is to read someone else's article and *peer-edit*. Responding to the writing of a classmate is far more than merely saying "this is really good".

The ideas listed here are ways for you to actually assist a classmate with their writing, even if you feel unqualified to do so. (You can also use this guide to assess your own writing!)



1. Read the entire article first.

This will help give a general sense of what the author is trying to say.

2. Go back and check the article for SLAP.

Is there any *stereotyping, lying, advertising, or plagiarism*?

If so, make note - the author will be in jeopardy of having the article rejected by the teacher or editor. (It's better to hear this from you *now* rather than later!)

3. Does the article include multiple, attributed sources?

The information must have come from someplace. Are attributions included? Are there more than one?

Mark any places where information needs to be attributed.

4. Are you convinced that the article is factually accurate? Is it credible?

If not, tell the author why you think so.

5. Is the lede engaging?

Did you actually want to read the entire article after reading the lede?

If not, make note.

6. Look for places where numbers are needed. Does the author use terms such as "a lot", "many", "some", etc? Ask questions like *how many* or *how much* or *what's the cost*?

7. Do you have unanswered questions about the topic that could be included in the article?

It will help the author to know what readers are wondering about.

8. Are there any parts of the article that are confusing?

Does the author need to explain certain words or ideas that you do not understand?

9. At the bottom of the article (or on the back) write a note to the author. Include:

- how you feel about what you read,
- things you liked about the article,
- ways the article could be improved.

A personal note from you will help encourage the author.

Think about things you would like someone to write on your article.