

EA 2.1 NARRATIVE * PEER EDITING WORKSHEET

Name of Author: _____

Name of Editor: _____

Remember, you are not being *mean*, you're trying to help the author get the best grade he or she can. Do not simply answer "yes" to all of the following questions. Please give them honest and constructive feedback. Feel free to write directly on the person's short story.

Read

Begin by reading the stories out loud to each other. You can either read your own work, or your partner's. Make sure you stop to fix any awkward passages, anything that doesn't *sound* right or doesn't come across the way you intended. Once you've finished reading, review your partner's paper using the following guidelines:

Page Evaluation

- Evaluate the beginning with the following in mind and rewrite where needed.
 1. First lines. Are the first lines interesting? Do they encourage you to read on?
 2. **Is whatever introduced in the first page part of the last page?** Generally the last page of the story is what the story is about. Use a theme to guide the writing.
 3. Highlight where the author uses an interesting lead-in and details?
 4. Does the narrative use techniques (dialogue, pacing, description) to develop experiences and characters? Check all three: note if they're missing.

Paragraph Evaluation

- Identify the paragraphs first, then evaluate them with the following in mind. Rewrite where needed.
 1. Is it clear where and when the paragraphs relate to the previous paragraph? Are events well-sequenced? Are paragraphs linked by transitions?
 2. Do the paragraphs attempt to appeal to all of the senses (sight, sound, smell, touch, taste)?
 3. Does the story have a consistent point of view?
 4. Does each paragraph raise the stakes (become more interesting or deepen suspense)?
 5. Does the story have a clear beginning, middle and end? Is it easy to follow? At no point should you wonder what's going on...

Character Evaluation

- The main character needs to be more than a name.
 1. Does the main character have a physical description that touches on the important elements? Does the author purposefully use descriptive language, telling details and vivid imagery in getting the reader to FEEL for the characters?
 2. Does the main character have a past? How do you know?
 3. Does the main character have a distinct way of speaking?

Style

- Are there elements that need to be *added* or *eliminated*?
 1. Did you eliminate unneeded words (be suspicious of bland words like "good/bad")? Challenge the writer with mature/advanced vocabulary.
 2. Do they use specific nouns and verbs? Adverbs, even? **Dialogue tags?!**
 3. Highlight what you think conveys a cultural perspective. What is that perspective? What culture does it belong to?

Check

- Make sure the author has successfully met all criteria:
 - **Writing Format Requirements Complete** (meets specifications listed on assignment sheet, page 136)
 - **Shows a cultural perspective** (clearly and obviously)
 - **Organization** (consistent and well-sequenced)
 - **Ideas & Content** (Content is strong and effective; maintains consistent point of view and verb tense)
 - **Voice** (Voice is evident –esp in dialogue!)
 - **Word choice & Descriptive Language** (Word choice is engaging and appropriate)
 - **Sentence fluency** (Sentences are varied and effective)
 - **Conventions** (Conventions are strong and writer correctly uses punctuation to communicate his/her voice) –esp in dialogue!