**Task 2: Individual Written Argument: Peer Review**

Writer’s name\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Editor’s name\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

*Read through the entire IWA once before answering any questions. Then go back and read again looking for the specific elements addressed in each question.*

***Write on BOTH this sheet and on the essay.***

*\*All answers require explanation/advice.*

1. What is the research question being argued?
2. Does it need to be clarified or improved upon?
3. Does the paper provide a detailed explanation of why the research question matters (e.g. academically, historically or practically) by putting it in context?

Look for:

* + *Does it contain specific and relevant details (i.e., what, who, when, where) to convey why the question matters?*
  + *Is there alignment between research question (argument) and context?*

1. Is a source from the stimulus packet used to support the argument?
2. Would the deletion of the reference to the stimulus material change or weaken the argument? Explain.
3. Does the writer include the title and author of the included stimulus source in the text of the paper?
4. What perspectives has the writer included in the argument? List them.
5. Does the writer include enough perspectives to thoroughly explore the research question?

Ask yourself *“what voices are missing?”*

1. What other perspectives could/should be included to make it more complete?
2. Does the essay include objections, limitations, and implications of the various perspectives?
3. Does the paper read like a list of evidence/sources that have little to no connection between them?

**vs.**

Does the paper integrate the use of sources by making connections between the sources to establish that the perspectives are “in conversation” with one another?

Look for:

* *Have they made only general comparisons between perspectives describing only basic agreement or disagreement?*

***vs.***

* *Have they elaborated on the connections among different perspectives?*
* *Did they use the details from different sources or perspectives to demonstrate specific agreement or disagreement among perspectives (i.e., evaluates comparative strengths and weaknesses of different perspectives by placing them in dialogue)?*

1. Does the argument synthesize information from various sources or is it more of a summary?

Look for:

* *Links between claims and evidence lack explanation. (Dominated by evidence rather than commentary.)*

***vs.***

* *The commentary explains fully how evidence supports claims. (i.e., the commentary will engage with the content of the evidence to draw conclusions.)*

1. What does the writer need to do to improve synthesis?

1. Does the writer include evaluation of the credibility and relevance of the sources?

Look for:

* *Purposeful use of relevant evidence from a variety of scholarly work (e.g., peer-reviewed, credentialed authors, independently verified, primary sources, etc.)*

1. Does the essay CONVINCINGLY link claims (assertions) and evidence and include insights (explanation/significance)?

Look for:

* *The writer effectively connects evidence to the argument, even if the relevance of the evidence is not initially apparent*

***AND***

*• There is purposeful analysis and evaluation of evidence used (i.e., goes beyond mere citation or reference)*

***AND***

*• The selected evidence fully supports claims*

1. Is the argument well organized and easy to follow? *(Organization is signposted or explicit.)*
2. Is it clear that this is an argument and not a report?
3. Does the writer include any counter argument?
4. Does the writer present a conclusion and/or resolution?
5. Are the conclusion and/or resolutions linked UNAMBIGUOUSLY to specific evidence?
6. Does the conclusion and/or resolutions fully address the research question?

Potential trouble spot: *Conclusion/resolution lacks either enough detail to assess plausibility or is not fully aligned with the research question.*

1. Go back through the paper and see if every source cited/referenced is listed on the Works Cited page.
   * Checkmark them on the Works Cited page as you go.
2. List any sources used in the body of the paper, but not listed on the Works Cited:
3. Cross through any sources listed on the Works Cited that were not cited (or used) in the paper.
4. Are the in-text citations cited correctly using MLA format?
5. Is the Works Cited page in alphabetical order, in MLA format?
6. Mark, directly on the essay, any spelling/convention errors you notice.
7. Make diction suggestions directly on the essay.
   * (Diction: choice of words especially with regard to correctness, clearness, or effectiveness)
8. Read for syntax/fluency. Mark, directly on the essay, any places where fluency needs to be improved.
   * (Syntax: the arrangement of words and phrases to create well-formed sentences in a language)
   * (Fluency: writing needs to flow smoothly from word to word, phrase to phrase, and sentence to sentence)
9. Are the sentences varied?
10. Are quotes embedded nicely in the sentences?

Comments/Questions/Suggestions: