*To Kill a Mockingbird* Character Analysis

Peer Evaluation

To effectively revise a peer’s paper, you must not only read and edit for the small errors, like punctuation and grammar, which many students tend to want to jump to. Those are lower order concerns and can be edited in the final draft. Before looking at those parts of the paper, you should look for higher order concerns: purpose, clarity, focus, and content of the paper. These are the steps you should take in revising your peer’s character analysis affectively:

**Step 1:** Read through your peer’s paper, making sure to pay special attention to comprehension of the paper.

**Step 2:**  Once you have read the analysis once, you should write down your initial thoughts about the paper

**Step 3:** Read through each part of the paper again, focusing on a specific aspects of the paper. Use the guide attached to edit your peer’s paper:

**Part One**

First, read through this part again and make sure that it addresses the prompt(s) for this part of the essay.

Does the prompt answer the following question? (Write yes next to those prompt(s) and questions the part addresses affectively. If you write NO next to a question or prompt, jot down some notes to help you explain yourself and some suggestions for improvement during the discussion portion of the peer evaluation process)

\_\_\_\_\_The essay addresses the ways in which the time period and regional setting impact the decisions and perspectives of the character.

notes:

\_\_\_\_\_ The writer does not leave any questions unanswered, and every part of this section is clear to the reader? If anything has been left unclear, write any questions you have here, or explain what you find to be confusing or unclear in the essay:

\_\_\_\_\_ The paragraph stays focused on the content that it is supposed to focus on.

notes:

\_\_\_\_\_Two excellent quotes have been used to help the reader support their claim/point.

notes:

**Part Two**

Again, read through this part individually to make sure it addresses the prompt(s) for this part of the essay and put a Yes next to those it does address and a no next to those it does not. Then jot down some notes to help you during your discussion afterward:

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ The essay identifies a strong motivation for the character and how the writer knows what he/she values based on these motives.

notes:

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ The essay explains what he/she hopes or stands to gain or lose by following their motivations

notes:

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ The essay explains what the writer feels to be the dominant character traits of the character and how the writer has seen these traits revealed throughout the novel.

notes:

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Every part of this section is clear to the reader. If anything has been left unclear, write any questions you have here, or explain what you find to be confusing or unclear in the essay:

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ The paragraph stays focused on the content that it is supposed to focus on.

notes:

\_\_\_\_\_Two excellent quotes have been used to help the reader support their claim/point.

notes:

**Part Three**

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ The essay Compares or contrasts their focus character to another character within the book and draws comparisons between the motives, values, and dominant traits of that character and themselves (or, to their own character from beginning to end of the novel).

notes:

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ The essay explains how decisions made and ﬂaws shape each person's character, and how this helps to identify comparative points in each.

notes:

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Every part of this section is clear to the reader. If anything has been left unclear, write any questions you have here, or explain what you find to be confusing or unclear in the essay:

notes:

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ The paragraph stays focused on the content that it is supposed to focus on.

notes:

**Part Four**

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ The essay clearly examines and explains how the writer has seen growth and change in this character from the beginning to the end of the novel.

notes:

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_The essay clearly shows In what ways the events that unfolded in those three summers altered how the character approaches and views the world around them and the society they are part of?

notes:

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Every part of this section is clear to the reader. If anything has been left unclear, write any questions you have here, or explain what you find to be confusing or unclear in the essay:

notes:

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ The paragraph stays focused on the content that it is supposed to focus on.

notes:

**Use of Phrases**

Now, look only for the three phrases to make sure they have been underlined, labeled, and to make sure they are written correctly.

Notes/suggestions for improvement:

Once you have finished your peer evaluation, wait until your peer has finished reading and evaluating your paper. Then, open your papers up for discussion.

To do this, go through each part individually to **highlight a strength of the section** and also **offer your suggestions for improvement in this section.**

Do this for each of your papers, and then begin editing your own paper, keeping in mind the suggestions of your peer. Then, write a half-page explaining what suggestion(s) you took from your peer evaluator and explain how it strengthened your paper. Be specific here, because your partner’s peer evaluation will be partially graded based on your changes and articulation of the ways in which your discussion and evaluation improved or strengthened your paper.

Tomorrow, you should have your finished paper along with the paper your peer evaluated, the responses from your peers, and your final half-page response to the peer editing printed and prepared to turn in.