**Overall Peer Review of Essay**

**Reviewer’s Name:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Writer’s Name (Whose Paper are you Reviewing?):\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_­­\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_­**

Write down your response to the following questions:

**Introduction:**

1. Is the introduction interesting? If it is, why? If it’s not particularly interesting, why not? Does the author catch your attention, or is the intro dull? If it’s dull, make concrete suggestions about what the author could add.
2. Does the paper start with “larger,” more general ideas and “narrow down” to the topic of the paper and the thesis? If not, do you have suggestions for how the author might start their paper? You can talk to the author and ask if s/he has any ideas for “hooks.” Listen to his/her ideas and give feedback. You can also suggest your own ideas for how to start.
3. Does anything feel missing or confusing to you? Imagine reading this essay if you were not familiar with the book and discussions from this class. Does the author need to give more context about the book in the introduction? In your opinion, does the author accurately represent the text? If not, write your suggestions for how the author might fix that.

**Thesis Statement: Find where the thesis statement begins and ends. Answer the following questions about it:**

1. Does the thesis written in the paper answer the prompt? Go back to the assignment sheet and make sure it answers the whole thing. If it doesn't what needs to change or be added?
2. Are all three parts of the thesis written down in the person’s paper? Underline the Observation (Level 1), the How?/Why? (Level 2), and the So What? (Level 3) and label them. Make sure the thesis has at least Levels 1 and 2 before moving on. If it doesn’t have a Level 3, make sure you make a note of that and suggest something for the writer.
3. If anything is missing from the thesis, what needs to be added? Conversely, if it is too long or confusing, what needs to be removed?
4. Is the thesis clear? What is particularly clear about it? What is particularly confusing about it? Help your partner out by offering suggestions for how to reword it to make it clearer.
5. Anything else? Remember that the thesis is the foundation of the rest of the essay, so spend time giving as much feedback as possible about this part of the essay.

**Topic Sentences/ Claims:**

1. Is each topic sentence connected to the author’s thesis statement? If not, what parts do not connect? Suggest ways to revise any “off” topic sentences so that they are on-topic with the thesis.
2. Is each topic sentence clear and concise? Suggest ways to revise any that confuse you. For the topic sentences you think are clear, rewrite the main point of the sentences in your own words to show that you understand what the sentence says.
3. Do all the topic sentences, when read together, seem like they answer all aspects of the assignment and the thesis statement? Point out if any paragraph that seems to repeat the claim of another paragraph. Point out if there is a claim that you think the writer could/should make that they have not.
4. Anything else?

**Evidence (Quotes, Paraphrases, Summaries):**

1. Does the author provide enough context for the evidence? Are necessary summaries and contextualization included as an introduction to the evidence? Is the quote introduced or does it stand alone as its own sentence (a quote cannot be alone as its own sentence)?
2. Are all quotations properly cited? Are paraphrases cited? Are there quotes around all words that are taken from the text?
3. Does each piece of evidence support the claim of the paragraph? If not, suggest a different piece of evidence.
4. Anything else?

**Analysis:**

1. Is there a large enough proportion of evidence and analysis? (There should be about three lines of analysis for every one line of evidence.)
2. Does the analysis make sense to you? If not, where do you become confused? How can the author make their interpretations clearer at these points of confusion?
3. Is the analysis a direct “close-reading” of the evidence? Is the analysis too far off-topic from the quotes? If so, suggest the way *you* would analyze the quote that would keep the analysis more “on” the quote.
4. **Does the analysis connect back to the claim of the paragraph and to the thesis?** This is extremely important. Make sure that the analysis always reveals a link back to the paragraph’s topic sentence and the thesis of the paper.
5. Anything else?

**Conclusions:**

1. Does the conclusion interest you? Why or why not?
2. Does the conclusion just summarize the rest of the paper? If so, what parts can the person get rid of?
3. Is the language clear and concise?
4. Does the conclusion bring up some larger issues?

**If you have time:**

1. Find what you consider the 3 weakest sentences in the paper. Underline or highlight these and offer suggestions for how to rewrite these sentences.
2. Also find the 3 strongest sentences in the paper and write down what is so strong about them. Why are these particularly clear?