

One-on-one peer review of a colleague's Op-Ed

For Shubham Dixit's Op-Ed, reviewed by Maxx Yung (me).

Propositional Content: Mostly meets expectations

- I assume the prop is: As educators and parents... unleash the full potential of VR... its ability to create immersive, interactive... bridge the gap between education...
 - Consider: - Combining into 1 sentence and simplifying. "As educators and parents, we must embrace/adopt VR technology for its ability to create ... that can make learning better?"
- Maybe move the concession/refutation paragraph (the 2nd one?) lower down until after you have stated your points already?

Invention: Mostly meets expectations

- Good mix of sources (Stanford studies, other studies).
- Very timely problem since VR is new and this is definitely a topic of concern in education.
- Consider: Hyperlink references? Anecdotal evidence? It would fit the genre of the op-ed better and anecdotal evidence would give you a "voice" within your op-ed.

Rhetoric: Partially meets expectations

- Your intended call to action is pretty clear. Title defines the op-ed well.
- Tone and voice works well, albeit some suggestions:
 - Make some paragraphs shorter. Especially the 3rd.
 - It doesn't read entirely conversational, almost robotic. I have a feeling it is attributed to phrases like "VR in education is more than just a brief fascination. It is a fast track to a world of opportunity." or "As we chart the course of education's future, let us anchor our decisions in the belief that the integration of VR in early education is a necessary stride toward excellence in learning." Try trimming down the fluff around the sentences that make it sound slightly robotic and monotone.
 - In relation to the above suggestion, you should add more variation to your sentence lengths. Partly why it sounds kinda robotic is the sentences are all generally really really long.

Genre: Partially meets expectations

- I think the social purpose is there: to convince educators (the venue/audience) about the benefits of VR.
- The prop is good and the counterargument makes sense to me. However, some formal features need fixing: add hyperlink references, a more conversational tone by using more first person, varying sentence lengths (overall need shorter sentences), and make some paragraphs shorter.

Presentation: Partially meets expectations

- Easy fixes:
 - Add masthead, by-line, images, and bio?
 - Add hyperlink references?

Aesthetics/Reading Experience: Mostly meets expectations

- It is well written with statistics but doesn't connect at a personal level. Mirroring suggestions provided above: Sentence lengths, shorter paragraphs, more first-person and how you think rather than as a research based op-ed.
- I would very definitely consider removing these long intro phrases throughout your essay: "As we chart the course of education's future, let us anchor our decisions in the belief that the integration of VR in early education is a necessary stride toward excellence in learning." They're very long and monotone sounding. Not sure how to un-monotone it though.

Weighted Average: B-

General Comments: Besides easy fixes like hyperlink references, adding visuals to get a perfect presentation score, some more pressing issues should be: - Rewriting some sentences to be shorter and making some paragraphs split into 2. Consider more first-person, anecdotes, and what you think about the problem, making it more like an op-ed genre than a research based, stating the facts type paper.

A copy of the document you reviewed

Attached below.