

Peer Review Assignment

Essay Author:

Peer Reviewer:

Read your peer's paper, annotating it as follows:

1. Does the paper have a clear thesis? If yes, identify (by underlining or highlighting) the sentence that states the paper's thesis.
2. Does each paragraph have a central idea? If yes, identify the sentence. If not, write "NCI" next to the paragraph.
3. Is the central idea of each paragraph related to the thesis (at least indirectly)? If yes, explain how in your mind; in the case where the relation is not obvious, also write it down. If not, write "NRT" next to the paragraph.
4. Within each paragraph, is every sentence related to the central idea of that paragraph? If not, underline or highlight that sentence, and write "nrt" next to the sentence.
5. Underline any sentences or passages you had to read a couple of times in order to understand what the writer was saying. Write "?" next to the sentence.
6. For each sentence, do you, or would a reasonable but skeptical reader, find it plausible? If not, underline or highlight that sentence, and write "NP" next to the sentence.

Also answering the following questions:

1. Does the paper have a clear argument? Identify the main premises/reasons that support the thesis.
2. Is there any logical gap in the argument?
3. What objections against any of the arguments in this paper can you think of?
4. Comment on the structure of your peer's paper. Is it easy to follow? Would you recommend moving anything around?
5. Does the paper have any issue discussed in Dan Korman, [#GradComments](#)? If yes, write down three issues that the paper has.

Here are some examples of useful comments that you can give:

- "Explain this claim" or "What do you mean by this?" or "I don't understand what you're saying here"
- "This passage is unclear (or awkward, or otherwise hard to read)" "Too complicated" "Too hard to follow" "Simplify"
- "Why do you think this?" "This needs more support" "Why should we believe this?" "Explain why this is a reason to believe P" "Explain why this follows from what you said before"

- “Not really relevant”
- “Give an example?”

Optional: **If** your peer is interested, you can follow the rubrics (in the First Draft Instructions) and check if the paper meets the standards.

Please upload annotated papers with comments on Moodle and also **bring physical copies to class**.