How to Peer Review

For university students, knowing how to write essays and papers is very important, as it is a way for the students to discuss what they have learned, to show their attitude, and to summarize their study. After writing a paper, students always go editing, checking for grammar mistakes, and have them peer reviewed. To make the paper better, it is important to take in others’ opinions, therefore peer reviewing can be very important for both the paper writer and the peer. Therefore, standing at the peer’s stand, when giving peer feedback, there are also things to be noted, to make self a better peer, and moreover, helping others in a better way.

First, it is important to follow the rubric when giving feedback. Keep in mind that it is not just you who are giving feedbacks, the person you are peering on is also doing this job, therefore following the rubric when giving feedbacks will save you time and help the other in the most efficient way. The feedback should be expressed in a respectful way, as it is someone on the other side of the screen that is reading the feedback. Even the work is not the most satisfying, do including some encouraging sentences. As it is the responsibility of a peer, honesty comes first. If the student does not follow the rubric or any other conditions, point out the mistakes or the missing parts directly. It will be appreciated that you have reminded someone what they have done wrong and help them fix it.

On the other hand, keep in mind that there are several things that should not be discussed in the feedback. Any irrelevant topics should not be discussed. To be responsible, do read through the peer’s work instead of just writing “good job” to everyone. Give helpful and respectful feedback is a peer’s job. Peers should also avoid biases. Even you should be proud of your work, others work should be appreciated too, so view others' work from a fair point of the view.

To summarize, peering feedback is important and valuable when the feedback is respectful in language, accurate in critiquing, and helpful in noting mistakes and missing components. When you are peering at someone’s paper, someone else is also giving your work feedback. Do it correctly and helpfully will benefit everyone and make the study environment better.