

WR 13300 / Shorthand Codes for Essay Comments / Spring 2016

The following comments correspond to the letters and numbers written on your draft or graded essay.

CONTENT

- C1** More specific examples or details are needed here and/or development is weak.
- C2** Your intended meaning is not clear here.
- C3** You seem to be contradicting yourself.
- C4** Why does this information or argument matter? Purpose or relevance is not obvious or clear.
- C5** This claim needs to be qualified or tightened. It's weak, imprecise, and/or too sweeping or broad.
- C6** too many claims in this section / unfocused
- C7** loose reasoning in here

STANCE/STYLE/DICTION

- S1** long and/or rough sentence(s)
- S2** awkward phrasing or wording
- S3** You are misusing "you" here—a more specific noun would demonstrate or match your intended meaning more precisely.
- S4** Notice how the crossed out words are not needed? or This should be more concise.
- S5** This doesn't fit intended meaning/tone/style.
- S6** vague use of "it" or "this/that/they/them/their"

PUNCTUATION

- P1** comma splice
- P2** run-on sentence
- P3** sentence fragment
- P4** The semicolon (;) should be a comma. A semicolon almost always has a complete sentence on both sides.
- P5** This hyphen (-) should be a dash (—) instead. In Word, two hyphens make a dash: --
- P6** This comma is not needed.

ORGANIZATION

- O1** A transitional word, phrase, or sentence would help or is needed here (a jump in ideas).
- O2** Organization and focus are weak here.
- O3** weak or awkward transition
- O4** Can you get to the point more efficiently? This information seems unfocused.
- O5** This section is repetitive.

GRAMMAR

- G1** subject/verb agreement problem
- G2** confusing verb-tense shift
- G3** You're using "their" or "they" or "them" (all are plural) to refer to a singular noun.

QUOTATIONS/PARAPHRASES/SUMMARIES

- Q1** missing citation(s): Where is this information and/or quotation from?
- Q2** "floated" quote
- Q3** weak or wrong citation
- Q4** too long of a quotation
- Q5** weak or wrong "ground"

FORMAT

- F1** Margins should be 1" all around.
- F2** no need for all caps, bold, or underline
- F3** no need to skip extra lines here and/or don't insert an extra break between paragraphs.
- F4** Is this double-spaced?

MISCELLANEOUS

- M1** Would careful proofreading have caught this?
- SB** See back of page for additional comments.