**Instructions for Peer Editing Research Interests Narrative**

1. Read the draft from beginning to end at your normal reading speed, marking anything you particularly like or have a question about. Number the paragraphs as you go.

2. Reread the draft more slowly, making in-text and marginal annotations to identify time, place, and significance of the parts of the narrative that are presented in detailed scenes.

3. Identify the true beginning of the story. (When did the writer first become interested in topics related to his or her current major). The ending of this story should include the writer’s current research interest, preferably in the form of a question. Whether or not the essay is arranged chronologically, some parts of the story before this beginning point can usually be pared down or cut (because ultimately they’re not relevant), while others need to be explored more fully (because the writer is just starting to recognize the relevance and connections to the current research interest).

4. Analyze the structure of the essay in a simple outline, using paragraph numbers, noting whether the narrative is arranged chronologically and how much time is covered.

5. At theend of the essay, write a note to the writer on the strengths of the essay and ways it might be improved. In particular, comment on the balance of narrative scenes and reflection, the organization and pacing of the narrative, and the connection between the narrative and the current research interest, and how the research question could be formulated or focused. Comment on how the essay could be expanded or cut. You are not expected to edit grammar or usage, but if you see a certain pattern of error (such as shifting verb tenses), you should mention it.

Writers should discuss their drafts with each of their editors to make sure they understand the comments and suggestions. Discussion can also continue via E-mail or the Discussion Board. Writers should decide whether and how to incorporate editorial suggestions before completing the final draft.