

Peer Edit with Perfection! Tutorial



Adapted from: <http://www.readwritethink.org>



Peer Editing is Fun!

Working with your classmates to help improve their writing can be lots of fun. But first, you have to learn what it means to "peer edit" and how to do it!



What is Peer Editing?

- A **peer** is someone your own age.
- **Editing** means making suggestions, comments, and changes to writing.
- ❖ Peer editing means working with someone your own age - usually someone in your class - to help improve, revise, and edit his or her writing.



3 Steps to Peer Editing

There are three important steps to remember when you are peer editing another student's writing.

- Step 1 - Mentor
- Step 1 - Suggest
- Step 2 - Correct





STEP 1 Mentor

- The first rule of peer editing is to **STAY POSITIVE!**
 - Remember, you're helping to change someone else's work. Think about how you would feel if someone were telling you what needed to be improved in your own writing...



STEP 1 Mentor

- Always start your peer editing with a question before you review work.
 - What would you like me to focus on as I read your work?
 - (It could be their goal for the day).
 - So, what do you want your reader to know/think/feel?
 - Keep it general



STEP 2 Suggestions



- Making suggestions means giving the author some specific ideas about how to make his or her writing better.
- Remember - stay positive and be specific!
 - Instead of, "It didn't make sense," say, "If you add more details after this sentence, it would be more clear."
 - Instead of, "Your word choice was boring," say, "Instead of using the word *good*, maybe you can use the word *exceptional*."



STEP 2 Suggestions

- Here are some areas that you may want to make suggestions about:
 - **Word choice** - Did the author choose interesting words?
 - **Using details** (for example, seeing, hearing, touching, tasting, and smelling)
 - **Organization** - Can you understand what the author is trying to say? Is it in the correct sequence?
 - **Sentences** - Are the sentences too long or too short?
 - **Topic** - Does the author stick to the topic or talk about other things that don't really fit?





STEP 3

Corrections

- The third step in the peer editing process is making corrections.
- Corrections means checking your peer's paper for:
 - Spelling mistakes
 - Grammar mistakes
 - Missing punctuation
 - Incomplete or run-on sentences



Things to Remember...

- **Stay positive** - Try to make suggestions and corrections in a positive way.
- **Be specific** - Give the author specific ideas on how to improve his or her writing.
- **Complete all 3 steps** - Mentoring, suggestions, and corrections.



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