

Draft workshop instructions

Groups of 3. You have 35 minutes to read and annotate each paper. Then pass the paper to the next person, and repeat.

For the **first paper** you read, mark (with the corresponding number) where the following components of the paper are (and, if you cannot find them, write that as a note for the author):

- 1) The introduction.
- 2) Thesis statement.
- 3) The author's argument.
- 4) An objection.
- 5) Reply to that objection.
- 6) The conclusion.
- 7) A place where the author clarifies or defines a term.
- 8) At least 2 examples of "signposting" (where the author reminds the reader where she is in the argument, or what part of the paper she is on).
- 9) A place where the author sets out a "road map" for the paper (detailing what will happen or has happened in the argument).

For **both papers**, note on the margin where you find any of the following:

- A) Where you became confused.
- B) Words you don't understand.
- C) Questions you had.
- D) Points where you got lost about what the structure of the paper is.
- E) Details that are not relevant to the topic of the paper.
- F) Listing multiple arguments all at once rather than focusing on one at a time.
- G) Claims that are not supported by previous arguments in the paper.
- H) Quotations that are not explained or connected to the rest of the paragraph.

For the **second paper** you read, fill in the worksheet (see the next page).

You're free to raise criticisms, but the primary goal of the session at this point is to focus on writing clarity. You are not an editor, though; you are simply reporting on your reading experience to the writer.

Draft worksheet

For the second paper you read, answer the following questions:

- 10) Was the paper on topic? Did it defend the thesis of the paper? Why or why not?

- 11) Does the paper contain extraneous, not-directly-relevant material that should be removed? Briefly state what that material is.

- 12) If you had to pick just one thing, what was the most interesting claim or insight in the paper?

- 13) If you had to pick just one thing, how does the essay most need to be improved? Be as specific as you can.

- 14) Consider the norms of paper organization (e.g. one main idea per paragraph, good signposting throughout, clear transitions between ideas, etc.). Suggest one way in which the paper can be better organized so as to make it more accessible to the reader.