**IDEAS and CONTENT**

⭘ Are my main ideas clear and focused?

⭘ Does my thesis statement help readers know exactly what my essay is about?

⭘ Do I give enough details to support my ideas?

⭘ Are my details accurate? Do they bring the paper to life and make it sound uniquely mine?

⭘ Does this paper make me sound well informed on my topic?

⭘ Do I use my own knowledge, experiences, insights, or unique perspective to make the paper seem real and original –like something no one else could have written?

⭘ Are words and ideas either all my own or correctly cited? Did I use correct citations?

**ORGANIZATION**

⭘ Does my introduction draw in my readers-- make them want to keep reading?

⭘ Do my paragraphs present my evidence and explain why the injustice is a problem for me?

⭘ Is there a logical progression of ideas from beginning to end? Does one idea lead smoothly into another without awkward jumps in thought?

⭘ Do I use natural transition techniques to signal what kinds of ideas are coming next and to tie all the parts together?

⭘ Does my conclusion state what I can do to help diminish this injustice? Does it give closure to my essay?

**VOICE**

⭘ Does my language have appropriate tone, emotion, and attitude for the paper’s topic and audience?

**WORD CHOICE**

⭘ Have I picked exactly the right word and not settled for generic terms? Does the language itself catch readers’ interest? Do my verbs sound powerful and interesting?

⭘ Are my words are specific and interesting, yet not overdone?

⭘ Have I eliminated slang and clichés, unless they are used purposefully as evidence of my injustice?

**SENTENCE FLUENCY**

⭘ Do my sentences flow together, so that reading the essay out loud is easy and natural?

⭘ Have I avoided fragments or used them on purpose to draw attention to an idea?

⭘ Are my sentences varied in their 1) beginnings, 2) lengths, and 3) patterns?

**CONVENTIONS**

⭘ Have I intentionally looked for the sentence pattern errors that have haunted my earlier papers?

⭘ Will readers be able to focus on my ideas, without stumbling over sentence pattern errors, especially SP 4 and SP 6?

⭘ Does my punctuation guide readers through my ideas—make them slow down or speed up when I want them to?

⭘ Could this essay be published after just a little bit of editing? Would I feel comfortable having this essay read to the class or posted on a blog?

(Adapted from http://intranet.usd475.org)

PEER RESPONSE

On your partner’s essay, please comment on the following things:

**Introduction**

* Hook. Did they get your attention? Is it effective? If not, provide a suggestion.
* Is their thesis statement clear? Do you feel like you know exactly what their essay is about? If you are even slightly confused, let them know.

**Body Paragraphs**

* Does each body paragraph have a clear topic sentence that tells you exactly what the paragraph is about?
* Do all of the details in the paragraph support the topic sentence?
* Has the writer chosen the best order for the paragraphs?
* Which paragraphs need more detail? Are there any details that could be cut because they are off topic or irrelevant?
* Does the writer use transitions to connect the main points? Do you have suggestions for places where this might be helpful?
* Does the writer have a counter-argument and a rebuttal paragraph? Do you think the counter-argument is the key argument for the opposing side? Does the rebuttal do a good job of answering the opposing view?

**Citations**

* Are their citations done correctly?
* “One person of integrity can make a difference” (Weisel). (Period goes at the END! No comma or period before the first parenthesis).
* If the author’s name is in the lead-in, then just the page number goes in parenthesis.
* If they are using a website with no author, then the title of the website goes in quotations in the parenthesis. (“Title”).

**Conclusion**

* Does the writer provide information about what they can/will do to diminish this injustice?
* Does the writer provide suggestions for what others can do?
* Does the conclusion have that overall finished feeling?
* Do you have any suggests for improving the conclusion?