

ADVANCED WRITING

Peer Review Workshop: Cultural Criticism Essay

Ashline

Name: _____

Reviewer: _____

Instructions: Exchange papers with a partner and carefully read over your partner's paper before slowly and deliberately reading a second time in order to answer the following questions in significant detail.

1. Consider the lede and the introduction. How has the writer begun the essay so as to situate the critique and compel the audience to continue reading? What necessary background has been provided, and how is the rest of the introduction structured?
2. How would you characterize the thesis, and is it effective for situating the rest of the review?
3. Consider the writer's incorporation of sources in the essay. Do you find the writer's use of sources appropriate and skilled or arbitrary and superfluous? Are there significant allusions to other artists and texts? Discuss your thoughts in detail.
4. Did the writer effectively and significantly discuss the cultural context of the song in question by the artist? How might this discussion be improved?

5. Analyze the writer's body paragraphs in terms of paragraph development. How would characterize it? Descriptive, narrative, comparative, analytical, synthetic, or perhaps persuasive? How successful was the writer in carrying out the chosen form of development?
6. Do you find the essay well focused and sufficiently narrow to cover in 6-8 pages? Is the paper unified or does it drift into tangents? How is the essay organized? Is the organization effective?
7. Examine the language and discourse of the essay. Is the diction appropriate, diverse, and interesting or pedestrian and boring? Explain detail below.
8. How well has the writer concluded the essay? Do you find the ending abrupt or smooth and developed? How might the closing be improved?
9. Examine the topic sentences of each of the paragraphs. Is there a conspicuous link with the prior paragraph or is the shift abrupt and jarring? How might the writer create better transitions?

10. What has the writer done to create sentence variety? How might the paper be improved in this regard?

11. Has the writer employed showing detail significantly more than telling detail? How might the essay be improved in terms of description?

12. Summarize the strengths and weaknesses of the essay below:

Strengths

Weaknesses

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