

ASSIGNMENT SPECIFICATIONS

Multimedia Feedback

***PART I - Audio Recording***

## Overview

We often overlook lower-order writing issues with our own writing as we silently read over our words on computer screens. Typically we read our own words like we *think* we wrote them, but not always as they actually appear. One way to help you *hear* some of those issues or inconsistencies is to create an audio recording of yourself reading your own writing aloud. This process has two benefits: (1) it provides an opportunity for you to read your entire paper aloud and make sure you are happy with the organization and arrangement of your document, and (2) as you then listen to your own audio file you may notice inconsistencies or areas where you stumble over your own words that might cause you to consider a few more edits before your final submission.

The purpose of this assignment is to assist in the final stages of your revision and editing process.

## Procedure

First, you will create an audio recording of yourself reading your final draft of your Opinion Piece. Think of this as your final step in the Revision/Editing/Proofreading process, allowing you an opportunity to hear you own words and notice any lower order concerns with your writing that you might revise before your final submission.

As you record your piece consider the following questions:

* Are there places where you keep fumbling over your own words?
  + There’s probably something mechanically wrong with your writing that is causing your flow to break – take a look at those particular passages and consider ways you might revise those sections.
* Are there places where the punctuation is unclear?
  + Again, consider ways you might revise those sections
* As you listen to your own recording are there ideas within your writing that might make more sense/help further your argument if they were arranged differently?
  + Here consider how moving a couple paragraphs might greatly enhance your argument and help make your case more clear and concise for your reader.

NOTE: It will likely take a couple attempts before you get a recording that you are satisfied with. Our goal here is not a COMPLETELY flawless “performance”, but rather for you to hear how your writing sounds aloud, and to work through your draft and any of the hiccups that you experience in your first few takes to arrive at a fairly polished recording of your final draft of your paper.

I would suggest you record yourself reading your draft all the way through (regardless of what happens) – and then listen back to that recording. From there make any adjustments to your draft, and then re-record (and re-record, and re-record …) until you have an audio file that you are happy with sharing with your peers for feedback.

## Deliverables

* Opinion Piece Audio Recording (submitted via the Canvas Assignment)
  + Saved as “LastName – Opinion Piece Recording – Section ##.mp3”
  + At the beginning of your recording:
    - Say your First and Last Name
    - Say your Section Number
    - Say the title of your piece
    - Begin reading the body of your piece

***PART II – Video Recording***

## Overview

In order to play with different ways of giving and receiving feedback, in addition to prepare for your upcoming video project we are going to utilize the “Media Comment” feature within Canvas to provide comments for this round of peer review.

This process has two benefits: (1) allows you to spend as much time as necessary to review each text and make sure that the author receives all of your feedback (2) it gives the author a sound bite they can replay as they are revising their document so that some of your comments don’t go unaddressed, and (3) it gives you practice at collecting your thoughts and delivering them to the author in a way that is more concise than you might in class – you can re-record your video as many times as you need in order to say things the most effect way you can.

## Procedure

For this part of the assignment you will be randomly assigned two of your peers’ drafts for peer review. You will then complete the following for each draft:

* Read the entire draft as it is without taking time to make any annotations
* Re-read the draft, making note of any issues you would like to address in your feedback (as well as making notes on suggestions for improving those issues). Feel free to use the Track Changes feature in Word, or the commenting features within Canvas.
* Once you have collected your thoughts on the draft, you will create an informal video comment where you discuss your feedback to the author. Think of this as a slightly more concise version of the comments you would provide to an author when we do in-class peer review. Ultimately the author should be able to easily follow your comments, easily locate sections of the text that you reference, and apply your recommendations to his or her final draft.

NOTE: As with your own audio file recording, this may take a couple of “takes” to get a video comment that you are happy with. Again, the goal is not a flawless performance – but something that is concise and useful for the author. We are using this as an alternative to a face-to-face discussion with the author.

## Deliverables

* Peer Review Video Comment
  + Submitted as a “Media Comment” within the Canvas Assignment
  + Be sure to
    - Introduce yourself (or remind the author who you are)
    - Discuss the strengths of the document (example: “I really enjoyed how you …”)
    - Discuss two or three of the weakest aspects of the document (example: “right now, I’m noticing …”)
    - Provide specific recommendations for how the draft might improve (for example: “one way you might address that is to consider moving this paragraph to this section of your paper for better organization and flow”)

## Reminders

**Higher Order Concerns** *include aspects of course content, conceptual understanding, argument, complexity, analysis, use of evidence or source material, development of ideas, organization and structure, understanding of genre and audience, overall flow, paragraph-to-paragraph flow, and tone and voice.*

**Lower Order Concerns** *include sentence-to-sentence flow, grammatical nuances, issues with redundancy or clarity, word choice / verb choice, specificity, formatting concerns, spelling, and punctuation.*

Areas you might comment:

* Focus & Organization
* Tone & Voice
* Style
* Genre Expectations
* Audience
* Integration of Sources
* MLA Formatting
* Flow (paragraph to paragraph and sentence to sentence)
* Grammar, Syntax, Spelling, Punctuation