

REVISING AN INTERPRETATION ESSAY

Give the students the following instructions. At the end of each number, wait while they write directly on their partner's first draft.

Have a partner revise your first draft using the following technique:

(Make sure your partner is writing directly on your first draft! If your partner makes no suggestions and does not help you to make any changes, you need to get a partner who will. It is your paper and your responsibility to improve it. Points will be taken off for no suggestions and no changes because there were no suggestions!)

- 1) In a different color pen or pencil directly on the first draft, check to make sure there is a creative, original title. If not, circle it and write a note that tells them to get one or if you are feeling generous, give them a couple of suggestions. Interpretation Essay #1 is not an acceptable, creative, original title! Color Me Red is an acceptable, original, creative title.
- 2) In their first paragraph, make sure their thesis is clear and understandable. If it is not, write them a note that tells them it is not clear and explain what isn't clear by asking them good questions that you may have about it.
- 3) In their first paragraph, check to make sure that they have at least 3 reasons that support their thesis statement. If they do not, write them a note that tells them they are missing a reason or that their reason is not clear. Be sure to explain why it is not clear. Suggest how they might make it better.
- 4) In their first paragraph, make sure they have a closing sentence that wraps up their thoughts and ideas for that paragraph. If they do not, write them a note that tells them to put one in. Make a suggestion as to what they might write.
- 5) In their second paragraph, make sure they have stated their first reason and explained how they believe it supports their thesis statement. If they did not do this, write them a note that tells them to do it and give them a suggestion as to how they should write it.
- 6) In their second paragraph, make sure they have at least 2 pieces of evidence from their Coat of Arms that support their reason and that they have made clear how the evidence supports the reason. If any of this is missing, write them a note that asks them to do whatever is missing. Give them a suggestion as to how to write it.
- 7) In their second paragraph, make sure they have a closing sentence that wraps up the ideas of that paragraph and leads the reader into the next idea. If they do not, write them a note that asks them to write that sentence. Give them a suggestion as to what to write.
- 8) In their third paragraph, make sure they have stated their second reason and explained how they believe it supports their thesis statement. If they did not do this, write them a note that tells them to do it and give them a suggestion as to how they write it.
- 9) In their third paragraph, make sure they have at least 2 pieces of evidence from their Coat of Arms that support their reason and that they have made clear how the evidence supports the reason. If any of this is missing, write them a note that asks them to do whatever is missing. Give them a suggestion as to how to write it.
- 10) In their third paragraph, make sure they have a closing sentence that wraps up the ideas of that paragraph and leads the reader into the next idea. If they do not, write them a note that asks them to write that sentence. Give them a suggestion as to what to write.
- 11) In their fourth paragraph, make sure they have stated their third reason and explained how they believe it supports their thesis statement. If they did not do this, write them a note that tells them to do it and give them a suggestion as to how they write it.
- 12) In their fourth paragraph, make sure they have at least 2 pieces of evidence from their Coat of Arms that support their reason and that they have made clear how the evidence supports the reason. If any of this is missing, write them a note that asks them to do whatever is missing. Give them a suggestion as to how to write it.
- 13) In their fourth paragraph, make sure they have a closing sentence that wraps up the ideas of that paragraph and leads the reader into the next idea. If they do not, write them a note that asks them to write that sentence. Give them a suggestion as to what to write.
- 14) In their fifth paragraph or their closing paragraph, make sure they have restated their thesis statement in a new and different way. If they did not, write them a note that asks them to do this. Give them a suggestion as to how to write it.
- 15) In their fifth paragraph or their closing paragraph, make sure they have at least one alternative interpretation and how it could be different than their original interpretation and still be valid. If they did not, write a note that asks them to do it. Make sure they have summed up their ideas and that they have written a closing sentence. If they did not, write them a note that asks them to do any of the things that are missing.