

Writer's name: _____ Responder's name: _____

Creative/Narrative Paper Response Sheet

Student Instructions: Creative writing might not be easy to respond to well, so use this response sheet as a guide more than a worksheet. Find 4-6 questions from this list that somehow pertain to the story/narrative you are responding to. Circle those questions...then provide your response to all of them in one of two places: a] on the draft itself (in the margins or on Post-its®) or b] on a sheet of lined paper that you staple alongside this response sheet to the draft of the paper. Somewhere, you must respond in writing to 4-6 questions that you circle from the list below:

1. Who are the most important characters in this writing? Are they described enough to give you a good idea of who they are physically and what their personalities are like? Comment/Suggest on one character from the writing at least.
2. What is the setting for this story? Does the author include enough information for you to see the setting in your mind as you read? Comment/Suggest on one aspect of the setting from the writing.
3. A good story has conflict between the characters and something else. Does the conflict make complete sense to you as you read the story? Ask, at least, one question about the conflict that you have for the author as you finish the paper.
4. Has the author effectively organized the story into paragraphs? If you cannot easily understand why the author has divided the action into paragraphs, mark the draft where you feel paragraphs should exist. Leave a short comment that explains why you think a paragraph should be added.
5. Select five weak verbs from the author's draft and circle them. Suggest a better, more exciting verb below for each circled verb.
6. Suggest four alternative titles for this story.
7. Does the story end effectively? When you reach the ending, do you feel satisfied that enough of the story has been included in the paper that you've read? Suggest one idea that you might add to the paper's ending.
8. Find eight weak nouns or adjectives. Underline them. Write suggestions for improving those underlined words from the draft.
9. Comment/Suggest on the paper's strongest moment.
10. Comment/Suggest on (with kindness!) the paper's weakest moment.
11. Other topic I can comment on when responding to this story (write it below, then circle number 11.):