

This completed peer review should be attached to the final, printed copy of your short story which is due on Friday, October 5th.

Your name: \_\_\_\_\_

The title of the story is \_\_\_\_\_ and  
it was written by \_\_\_\_\_.

### Short Story Peer Review (total time: 20 minutes)

**P = praise**

**Q = question**

**S = state suggestions**

#### Directions to the reviewer (the one listening and making comments):

You will listen as your partner reads his/her story to you. Please listen to the whole story at least once all the way through before you write about or comment on anything.

**After** you listen (*3-5 minutes*) to the whole story once:

- **Praise** (*2-3 minutes*) some part of the piece (your favorite part, the funniest, most surprising, most suspenseful). Think about what is good? What should not be changed?
- **Question** by asking clarifying questions. As a reader, what does not make sense or what confused you? The author answers as many questions as he/she can in the time given (*5-7 minutes*) Then, the author will read the story to you again.
- **State specific suggestions** on this form, while listening to the story being read a second time (*5 minutes*) to help the author improve his/her story.

#### ➡ **Beginning (*Exposition*)**

**Yes**  **No** Is there a title that makes sense and grabs your attention?

**Yes**  **No** Is there a opening line or paragraph that makes sense and “hooks” your attention?

**Yes**  **No** Does the story begin with action, a question, dialogue or sensory language? Close your eyes and picture it as a movie scene...does anything happen?

**Yes**  **No** Do you understand what the main character wants? Describe what he/she wants: \_\_\_\_\_

**Yes**  **No** Do you understand the problem? What is stopping the character from getting what he/she wants? \_\_\_\_\_

What specific **suggestions** for improvement can you make?

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

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➔ **Middle (*Rising Action*)**

- Yes**  **No** Does the rising action build towards the climax, becoming more intense/complicated?
- Yes**  **No** Are there 1 - 3 events leading up to the climax or turning point?
- Yes**  **No** Does the rising action have a series of scenes you can visualize, not just a summary of the events? **Comments:** \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

What specific **suggestions** for improvement can you make?

**Comments:** \_\_\_\_\_

➔ **End (*Climax, Falling Action, Resolution*)**

**Yes**  **No** Does the story come to a climax near the end? Describe the climax (height of the action): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Yes**  **No** After the climax, does the story wind down and eventually resolve the conflict? Describe how the story resolves the conflict: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

What specific **suggestions** for improvement can you make?

**Comments:** \_\_\_\_\_

➔ **Conventions (*or G.U.M.s*)**

- Yes**  **No** Are numbers below ten and at the beginning of sentences spelled out?
- Yes**  **No** Does the story correctly use commonly confused words such as to/too, your/you're and their/there/they're?
- Yes**  **No** Does the story end sentences with a period and contain only one complete idea per sentence (no run-ons)?

**Comments:** \_\_\_\_\_

➔ **Author's Homework:** Use the feedback from this session to revise your short stories at home. Refer back to this sheet for specific suggestions.