Peer Review Workshop: Presenter Template

 **Advanced Preparation**

Check the number of students in the class and make a copy of the Peer Review Worksheet for each student. The Worksheet begins on the second page of this document.

**Brief Introduction to the UWC**

Briefly discuss our services and provide relevant logistics: location, hours, etc. *Be brief;* this Peer Review Workshop will take a full 40-45 minutes.

**Introduce the Peer Review Workshop (5 min.)**

Before the students exchange papers with their partners, ask them to divide their papers up into three sections: introduction, body, and conclusion. They should draw a line underneath their introductory paragraphs and above their conclusion paragraphs. Explain that this will give their partners three discrete sections to work on.

Next, walk the students through the workshop. For each section of the paper, explain its importance and discuss the elements they’ll be looking for.

1. **Introduction and Thesis (Recommended Workshop Time: 5-10 min.)** The most important function of an introduction is to deliver the ***thesis*** of the paper. The thesis is the organizing principle of the paper: it is the main argument, purpose, or research question. It should fully encapsulate the material in the paper without going outside of it. In the same way, all of the material in the paper should relate back to and support the thesis without going beyond it.
2. **Body Paragraphs (Recommended Workshop Time: 25-30 min.)** Each body paragraph should support one ***main claim***. Main claims are discrete ideas, summaries of research, or sub-arguments that work together to support the paper’s thesis. Complex main claims may require more than one paragraph for full support. Each body paragraph should support its main claim with ***evidence*** and ***analysis***. Analysis explains to the reader how the evidence supports the claim. (Some paragraphs, such as those devoted simply to summary or objective reporting, may not require analysis.)
3. **Conclusion (Recommended Workshop Time: 5 min.)** The conclusion should ***restate*** the paper’s thesis, ***summarize and synthesize*** the paper’s main claims, and suggest something to the read about why the paper is relevant, important, or useful. In other words, the conclusion should recap the rest of the paper and then answer the ***“So what?”*** question: *So this is your thesis? So what? Why should a reader care?*

Now, ask the students to write their and their partner’s names in the appropriate spaces on the Peer Review Worksheet. Have them exchange papers with their partners and begin. ***Keep an eye on the clock.*** Depending on how long the class and the paper are, encourage the students to spend 5-10 minutes on Step 1-2, 25-30 minutes on Steps 3-6, and 5-10 minutes on Steps 7-8.