

Name of YOUR AUTHOR_____

YOUR Name (Paper Critic)_____

Essay Evaluation Form

This exercise has two purposes: to help your fellow student improve his or her essay, and to develop your critical skills. By improving your skills, you can learn to be more critical in reading *your own* writing, and so more effectively revise and perfect your essays.

Please read all the questions on this sheet through first. After answering the first question, please read the essay through *at least twice* carefully. Then take your time in answering the remaining questions, referring back to the paper whenever necessary. ***Please do not hesitate to use extra paper if your remarks won't fit in the spaces on this form.***

1. What do you see as the main ideas of the paper?

2. Has your author made good use of her/his sources? Do quotations and descriptions of what the documents say fit well with the particular point your author is making? Can you tell who is saying what?

3. Do you see the paper as setting forth a coherent and consistent interpretation? Please state what that interpretation is, or if there is no single, consistent one, what possible interpretations do you glean from the paper (this may take careful reading and re-reading)?

4. Which arguments and interpretations do you find convincing? Which do you see as unconvincing? Why?

5. If you have some knowledge of the topic, in what areas do you believe your author has missed something? Can you think of any material your author might incorporate into her/his paper?

6. Has this paper stimulated your thinking about the subjects covered in this course? If so how?