**SAMPLE PEER REVIEW COMMENTS**

It may be helpful to review some common types of peer review comments with your students and discuss which they find most useful. Here are a few examples of student comments.

**Types of comments**:

* Reader Response: Praise or Criticism
* Problem Diagnosis
* Suggestion for Action
* Vague/Non-specific

**QUESTION:** Summarize your classmate's position on the issue. How much does he/she agree with the author? How consistent is his/her position from start to finish?

**Reader Response:**

* It’s as if you are just restating what you read rather than picking which side you agree with.
* I get a clear sense that you are in favor of homeschooling. However, you also make clear that its effectiveness is conditional upon the individual situation.
* Lauren believes in strong parent involvement from the very beginning because she has seen how it has aided her own academic performance. She has yet to include any authors so I cannot really tell whom exactly she is agreeing and/or disagreeing with.
* It is hard to say whether or not Shannon agrees with Brooks because she mainly discusses standardized testing instead of homeschooling.

**Diagnosis:**

* You did not choose a side at all or at least not that I could tell in your paper.
* Your position was clearly stated in the introduction, you agreed with the author and also added points to the issue
* At times it feels you jump from one idea to the next too abruptly and lose the reader.

**Suggestions**:

* You need to tell us what your position is on standardized tests in school and whether or not you agree or disagree with Brooks and the blog entries that follow.
* You could tighten the structure of your paper if you organized your sources to "save the best for last."
* You could improve the organization of your paper if you discussed firstly what needs to change and then discuss specifically how change can be implemented.

**Vague/Unproductive:**

* You take a good position. I would like to see a little more of you in this though.
* The tone seems a little biased but I guess that is needed for you to prove your point.
* I feel that you have good sources that will appeal to the reader.
* While the problem you are addressing is made clear, the wording of it could be reworked. You seem to have some repetitive phrases and circular comments in there.
* You don't cover all the main points, but that's probably not necessary.
* Credentials aren’t really mentioned, but I doubt many of them have an expert’s understanding of the topic anyways.

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