

Writing Rubric for a Response to Literature

Essay Topic: *Explain whether the author supports the claim made in the title, “Energy Drinks Promise Edge, but Proof is Scant”*

Peer Revising Worksheet:

While reading your partner’s essay, use this rubric by putting a checkmark next to the items that are well-done. Then, complete the comment section at the end.

Introductory Paragraph

- ___ Grab your reader’s attention with a GREAT LEAD sentence.
- ___ TAG—identify the title, author and genre
- ___ 3-4 sentences summarizing the story or topic of the literature (if narrative, include conflict)
- ___ **State your claim** without listing your arguments. **

Body Paragraph #1 – Your first Reason/Point/Argument

Remember that each paragraph is always about one topic. If you need two paragraphs for this argument, remember that each paragraph has one specific point and purpose. Don’t just start a new paragraph because the first one is too long.

- ___ **State** your first argument in a topic sentence
- ___ Use **Quotations** and specific descriptions of events from the story for **evidence** to back up your argument.
- ___ **Explain** how your evidence supports your argument. Your explanations should be detailed, specific, and specifically explain how your evidence proves the statement in your topic sentence. DO NOT simply paraphrase the evidence.

Body Paragraph #2 – Your second Reason/Point/Argument

Same directions as above for your first reason/argument:

- ___ **State** your second reason/argument in a topic sentence
- ___ Use **Quotations** and specific information
- ___ **Explain** how your evidence supports your argument. Your explanations should be detailed, specific, and specifically explain how your evidence proves the statement in your topic sentence. DO NOT simply paraphrase the evidence.

Body Paragraph #3 – Your third Reason/Point/Argument

Same directions as above for your first reason/argument.

____ **State** your third reason/argument

____ Use **Quotations** and specific information

____ **Explain** how your evidence supports your argument. Your explanations should be detailed, specific, and specifically explain how your evidence proves the statement in your topic sentence. **DO NOT** simply paraphrase the evidence.

Body Paragraph #4 – Your Counter-Argument and Rebuttal

You must **anticipate and state a compelling argument** that someone might have against your claim. Then you must explain why their argument is incorrect.

____ **State** the counter-argument

____ **Explain your response** that disproves it

____ Use **Quotations** or evidence from the story

____ **Explain** how your reasoning supports your argument. Your explanations should be detailed, specific, and specifically explain how your evidence proves the statement in your topic sentence. **DO NOT** simply paraphrase the evidence.

Body Paragraph #5 – Your Conclusion

____ Remind your reader of your claim and your arguments by re-stating your claim in a new way.

____ Leave your reader pondering a bigger picture thought, perhaps by making this a broader statement on why the topic is important to the reader, or by connecting your claim to a personal experience that the reader could relate to, or be simply discussing why this topic is important.

For Peer Revising:

Look over your analysis above. In what areas do you think the writer should concentrate in order to most improve this essay? Give specific suggestions: