Unit 2 – Peer Review

REVIEWER:

WRITER BEING REVIEWED:

Assess the following criteria using these questions to prompt your response. Don’t just answer yes or no; instead formulate a complete, descriptive response. When you are finished, return this sheet to your partner and share your responses.

Thesis: Is the purpose of the essay clear? Does the thesis raise the issue to be discussed and offer a direct statement of the writer’s position? Does the thesis have a logical relation to the overall structure of the essay?

Discussion of Topic: Is the issue one about which reasonable people could disagree? Are both sides of the issue described? Is the topic too broad or too narrow in scope for an essay of this length?

Supporting Evidence: Does the evidence support the claim(s) made by the thesis? Does the writer employ forms of argumentative appeal including logos and ethos? Does the evidence effectively counter opposing arguments?

Discussion of Opposition: Does the essay include a discussion of strong, viable points of opposition to the writer’s position? Does the writer utilize counterargument and/or concession to neutralize the opposition’s arguments?
Organization: Does the sequence of material support the thesis and purpose? Does the essay show connections between ideas? Does each section have a logical relation to the sections that precede and follow it?

Quotation and Citation: Does the essay use secondary material in appropriate and interesting ways? Does the essay integrate sources using signal phrases and quotation? Are the sources cited correctly according to MLA style guidelines?

Style/Tone: Does the essay use language with control, elegance and imagination? Is the writer’s voice distinctive and relevant to the essay’s purpose? Does the voice remain consistent throughout the essay?

Mechanics: Does the writer use forms of grammar, punctuation, spelling and syntax that are appropriate for standard written English? Is there attention to proofreading?

End Comment: Imagine that you are the instructor reading this paper and evaluating its overall effectiveness as a persuasive essay. What are its strengths and weaknesses? What does the writer most need to improve? Write an end comment describing your assessment.