UNIT 3: ART AND LITERATURE (Race, Gender and Oppression)  
Peer Review (5% of the writer’s unit grade)

Directions:

A. After forming small groups (3-4 students each), select a timekeeper for your group because you should spend about 15 minutes focused on each student’s paper.

B. First, read your paper aloud to the group with a pen in your hand. Read slowly and clearly. Also, remember that reading your own work aloud is a great opportunity to discover awkward phrases, unclear sections and missing transitions. Be sure to pause and mark these spots as you read.

C. Next, interview your group members based on the questions below and take notes on their insights.

D. After each group member has had a turn, trade papers with a group member to proofread for mechanical problems.

E. As a final group assignment, perform a five-minute freewrite focused on changes you want to make to your own essay.

F. Unlike previous peer reviews, this review is worth five percent (5%) of the writer’s unit grade, so be sure to take careful and complete notes and to include them in your portfolio.

Interview Questions:

1. What are your overall reactions to my paper? What is one thing you really liked and one thing that could be improved?

2. [Reread title to group.] Does my title catch your attention and give you a clear idea of the focus of my essay? How could my title be improved? [Write a new title, if needed.]


4. Do I use enough specific details in my close reading of a poem to build an interpretive argument that supports my thesis? Does my interpretation make sense to you? Do any sections need to be more clearly explained?

5. Do I effectively address an opposing argument? In other words, do I explicitly mention at least one aspect of the poem or critical piece that another reader might interpret in a different way? Do I go on to make a convincing case for my interpretation?

6. Do I skillfully weave source material from a critical piece and an outside source to enhance my interpretative analysis of the poem? How could I improve my analysis of the critical piece and my use of an outside source?

7. What do you think is the most important thing for me to pay attention to as I revise my essay? [List one unique suggestion from each group member.]