



The Workshop: Modified Read Aloud

Directions: Use the instructions on this sheet with your writer's workshop critique group to take a closer look at your sentence structure and content.

Step 1: Setting the Tone for the Group

Introduce yourselves. Remember that all criticism should be constructive and specific, and that all compliments should be genuine and specific.

Step 2: Review the Prompts

Go around the group and ask which prompts each person used for this assignment.

Step 3: Read Aloud

Start with one person in the group. That person introduces him/herself, states what kind of feedback he or she wants, reads the prompt, then reads his/her college essay to the group. Group members listen carefully. (If the person has a UC prompt, read all four personal insight answers before giving feedback.)

Step 4: Feedback

Group members share feedback with the writer. First and foremost, discuss how effectively the writer addresses the prompt. If you have any advice for how the writer may address the prompt better, now is the time to make suggestions, even if you have to give new ideas for a different direction the essay might take. Give any other kind of feedback, as you would during a read aloud on Fridays.

Step 5: Those Who Don't Have a Draft

Repeat Steps 3 and 4 with each member of the group. If a person in the group came to the workshop without his/her first draft, when it comes time for him/her to read, instead have the group give suggestions for topics, and if there is time, have the student start writing ideas in his/her notebook.