

Peer Review Form: Chapter 2

Name of paper author:

Name of Peer reviewer:

Paper title:

1. **Thesis.** Quote or paraphrase the thesis of the paper. Is it a good thesis? How could it be improved in terms of argument or writing? Where is it in the paper ... at the beginning? ... at the end? Is that an effective choice?

2. **Introduction: strategies.** Does the introduction make you want to keep reading? Why or why not? Is it a fairly traditional opening? How would you characterize the writing strategies used in the introduction?

3. **Introduction: Follow-through.** Having read the rest of the paper, did you find that the introduction gave you a good idea of what the author actually did address in the rest of the paper? If not, what is the main point that the author really makes?

4. **Introduction & Conclusion.** Think about the relationship between the introduction and conclusion. Does the conclusion work simply as a summary or a reiteration/rephrasing of the introduction? Does the author use other writing strategies in his/her conclusion? Is it a successful conclusion in that it offers closure to the paper while emphasizing the main thesis strongly one last time?

5. **Strategies of Development.** What strategies of development do you see the author using on the paragraph level or in the paper as a whole? Which are the most successful?

6. **Rhetorical Appeals.** What rhetorical appeals did the author use in his or her own writing? How did the author work these appeals into his or her text (i.e., through using statistics, through extended example, through reliance on shocking images)? Were these choices appropriate and successful?

7. **Development of Ideas.** Are the main points of the paper sufficiently developed? Does the paper bring up any interesting points that you would like to see developed further? Do you find any spots where the paper goes off on a tangent or addresses peripheral/irrelevant material? Are there any spots where the author relies too heavily on generalization?

8. **Organization of Argument.** Is the argument organized effectively? Do the ideas follow each other in a logical, understandable way? Are there any places that are confusing?

9. **Transitions.** How are the transitions between paragraphs? Mark with * on the paper one transition that worked really well and write out below why you thought it was successful. Mark with an x on the paper one transition that is less polished and write out below why it doesn't work as well.

*

X

10. **Paragraphing.** Think about the paragraphs themselves for a moment. Does the author use topic sentences? Is that a successful decision? Are the paragraphs more or less cohesive -- i.e. do they focus on/develop one idea? Are any paragraphs too long or too short for easy reading?

11. **Style I.** Is the point of view consistent throughout the paper? Does the author use precise, vivid language? Is there unnecessary repetition? Conversely, does the author use repetition deliberately for rhetorical effect? Is that successful? Give examples as applicable.

12. **Style II.** Does s/he vary sentence structure? Are there too many short, choppy sentences, or ones that are overly complex and need to be broken up? How do the sentences flow into one another? Do you find any places where it seems that author deliberately has manipulated the organization of his/her sentences to enhance this sense of flow?

13. Write out below one sentence that you really liked and why you liked it.

14. Write out below one sentence that you thought could have used improvement and why.

15. **Grammar & Punctuation.** Are there any grammatical/mechanical errors (including problems with punctuation)? Are there any consistent problems with diction, usage, or words misused that you can point out to the author?

16. **Visual Rhetoric.** How did the author use visual rhetoric in his or her own writing? That is, how did he or she use the advertisements as persuasive elements? How did he or she reproduce and/or position the ads? Was this an effective choice? What was the relationship between description of the ads and analysis? Are there any aspects of the ads that could be analyzed further to contribute to the impact of the argument?

17. **Free-write.** Free-write general comments to the author, reflecting on the paper and your experience of reading it.