

Critique Protocol (30-45 minutes)

In this protocol, students critique their peers work to provide feedback for revisions.

When to use this:

Throughout the writing process.

Set up:

Partner students, display the critique focus, and establish separate workstations.

Step 1: Establish a focus

The teacher identifies one focus for the critique from the student-generated list of “essentials” created in a previous lesson. Remind students that feedback should: Be Specific, Be Helpful, and Be Kind.

Step 2: Share writing

Students exchange their writing with a partner (digitally or physically).

Step 2: Sit AWAY from each other

Student partner should sit across the room from one another. This ensures that the writing “stands on it’s own.” The author will not be able to answer questions or make any clarifications about their writing. This encourages more care and attention in writing.

Step 4: Read and provide “Warm & Cool” feedback

Students read their partner’s writing and provide 2 types of feedback *for the focus essential only*. Warm feedback identifies something effective, engaging or interesting about the writing. Cool feedback identifies an area in which the writing can be improved or revised. If the feedback is being done on a Google Doc, students post comments in the text. If feedback is being done on paper, students highlight and provide feedback in the margins.

Step 5: Share feedback

Student partners reconvene and take turns explaining the warm & cool feedback they provided.

Step 6: Revise

Give students time to revise their work based on the feedback. This allows partners to ask questions and share revisions immediately.