

Checking your own writing or that of your peers: comparison

Read the comparison carefully and answer the following questions:

1. What do you like best about this comparison? (Why? How/where might the writer repeat it?)
2. Is it clear what is being compared? (Did the writer list the source, and cite it correctly?)
3. Is it clear why these things are being compared? (Is there a thesis? Write it out.)
4. What is the organizational structure of the extract? (Turn over this sheet and sketch out a simple plan/diagram)
5. Do you find the organization effective? (Would another structure have been more effective, Why? Map that structure.)
6. Does the writer include sufficient evidence to support the thesis? (Regardless of whether or not you are convinced by the thesis, please evaluate evidence to support it. Is it appropriate? If not, what other evidence might be useful?)
7. Are the introduction and conclusion effective? (If so, how? If not, why not? How could they be improved?)
8. Were there any points in the comparison where you were lost because a transition was missing? (If so, where and how might it be fixed?)
9. Were there any points where you were lost because some information seems to have been omitted? (If so, where, and what seems to be missing? Why do you think it might be important?)
10. If you have read the original sources, do you find the comparison fair? (If not, why?)

11. Was there a mechanical, grammatical, or spelling error that annoyed you as you read the paper? (If so, how could the author fix it? Did you notice this error occurring more than once?) Do not comment on every typographical or other error you see. It is a waste of time to carefully edit a paper before it is revised!

12. What other advice do you have for the author of this paper?

Space for diagram or other notes