

Review
(Essay #2)

For this second essay, I'd like you to write a review. The fun part (I hope!) is that *you choose the subject*. You may review a performance, such as a play or a concert; a book; a website; a video game; a film; a consumer product, like your laptop; etc. The only stipulations are (1) the material can't be rated "XXX" and (2) you must have first-hand knowledge or experience of the material, so you can't review a Ferrari unless you're actually able to drive one.

Your mission is to write a **3-5 page review** that contains all three elements of evaluation covered in Chapter 6 of *The Curious Writer*: judgment, criteria, and evidence. You will need to persuade readers that your criteria are reasonable and appropriate for what you are evaluating; you want to avoid being overly idealistic (a film can be "insightful" without changing the world) or unhelpfully general (include vivid, specific supporting details). Your evaluation must be presented as both balanced and fair.

Whatever subject you select – and we'll work on selecting and evaluating subjects in class - you need to categorize your subject in order to make useful comparisons for readers. For example, rather than evaluating a website against all other websites, you'll need to tell readers that you are focusing only on websites designed for classroom use, like Blackboard; instead of evaluating a movie against all other movies, tell readers that you're focusing only on adult comedies.

A review is a genre that can often benefit from careful document design. Think about what headings would help readers "find their way" through your review; how you could manipulate font or form to make criteria stand out; and whether readers would benefit from "seeing" your subject through a screenshot, a drawing, a photograph, etc.

Guidelines:

- Workshop drafts and final, graded drafts must be typed and double-spaced. Use a standard font like Times New Roman in 10- or 12-point, and use one-inch margins on all sides. DO NOT double space between paragraphs.
- Put your name, my name, our course number (ENG100), and the date on separate lines in the top left-hand corner of your paper.
- Include page numbers at the bottom.
- Essays should be at least three FULL pages in length.