Peer-Critique Process for Synthesis Papers

REMEMBER: Use your own paper when you answer the following questions, since the space provided is too little room for good responses. Write as much as you can to help your fellow students. In doing so, you will also help your own grade. (Yes/No or short responses all the way through a critique would earn an “F.” Lengthy, helpful responses always earn a better grade, and they can even help you with your own paper.)

1. Does the Introduction grab your attention? If yes, explain how and why. If not, explain how and why not.

2. Is there a clear thesis which takes a stance and indicates where the essay is headed? If yes, explain how and why. If not, explain how and why not.

3. Does each body paragraph have a topic sentence that ties back to the thesis? Does the paragraph stick to that topic sentence? If yes, explain how and why. If not, explain how and why not.

4. Does each body paragraph have enough information? Is each one fully developed? If yes, explain how and why. If not, explain how and why not.

5. Does the conclusion reiterate the thesis? (not restate it verbatim) If yes, explain how and why. If not, explain how and why not.

6. Does the conclusion wrap up the essay and end with the student’s own words and thoughts? If yes, explain how and why. If not, explain how and why not.

7. Is there a Works Cited page at the end of the paper and are the sources cited in parentheses within the essay? If not, note any quotes or paraphrases or summaries that should be cited within the essay.