Ms. Ricker English Protocol for Peer Conferences

Allow for approximately 20 minutes to complete peer conference in pairs.

Step 1: Exchange papers and read the writing of your partner silently for 5 minutes. Make no comments and ask no questions at this time. You may silently correct any convention errors you notice at this time if Edited English is an expectation of the final draft.

Step 2: One person begins to comment aloud on the first paper's merits and questions about the paper. At this point, the author can answer questions, explain ideas or writing style, and take notes to improve the assignment. If no other specific directions have been given, it is suggested that the conference adheres to the 5Ws + H format for improving details and clarity.

Reminder: 5Ws + H are Who, What, Where, Why, When, and How.

Step 3: Repeat Step 2 with the second paper. It is suggested that you alternate who begins each time you participate in a conference. Steps 2 and 3 should take about 10 minutes.

Step 4: At this point, both partners brainstorm where to go from here. The work you have completed has gotten some feedback so now it is time to prepare your next piece of writing or to continue working on the longer piece you have been assigned. Both partners brainstorm about their own writing as well as suggest ideas for the direction of each other's writing. These suggestions are written down. If time remains, each person should begin silent writing based on the suggestions given.

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Workshop 5, Ricker Write in the Middle