

2001 JOURNAL FEEDBACK GLOSSARY

Below is a brief explanation of my system for journal feedback. If you ever need help interpreting my comments, I am always free during office hours or possibly by appointment.

Number system:

5: thoughtful post that directly addresses the prompt and shows evidence of editing. Goes beyond repeating words of the author or in class discussion. I see the work you put in!

4: can be either: a post with great content but not-great proofreading/organization, OR a post that's well-structured and proofread, but lacking in original thought.

3: little to no effort went into this entry. Incomplete, needed proofreading, off topic, or otherwise unprofessional. Tutoring highly recommended.

Shorthand explained

?: Huh?? I'm not seeing this writing skill being used correctly, or at all.

!: Great display of this writing skill.

~: sort of; OK but needs work

QUOTE: choice/use of quotations

ORG: organization. Frequently refers to sentence sequencing. If you see this, you may need to make sure you present your claims in a logical order.

PROOF: proofreading; could refer to capitalization, punctuation, spelling, or formatting.

SYN: syntax (sentence structure and proper use of clauses)

TERMS: use of terms discussed in class (eg irony, emotional appeals)

PARSE: to parse, or closely analyze, a passage or quote

PROMPT: directly addressing the prompt

CLAIM: central claim

FORMAT: formatting issues (either it's not a Word Doc, or it's missing a title/name/date/etc)

UNPACK: explain, in further depth, some of your claims. Note: "UNPACK?" may mean that you need to make fewer claims and expand on them, instead of making a lot of claims without explanation. Quality over quantity!

SUM: too much summary

Here's a sample comment and translation:

4: QUOTE!, TERMS! PROOF~, ORG?

Translation: Excellent choice of quotation, and I can see you have a handle on key terms discussed in class. However, proofreading is mediocre, and you really need to work on sentence sequencing. On the whole, a solid post that could be better.