Peer response offers a reader s reaction to their peer s writing, illustrates a work s impact on a real (non -instructor) audience, and targets issues the writer should address based on where they are in the writing process. Understanding how the reader interprets and comprehends the writing gives the writer insight on what revisions may be helpful. Because of this, peer review is a common and useful step in the writing process that can be done at any point. It can be done with only one peer or in groups. This process allows for another set of eyes to look over and assess a piece of writing.

Peer response is useful to both the writer and reviewer. Having another person read your work can illuminate things that you did not notice, expose you to different ways of writing, and help you to become more aware of your own writing strengths and challenges. Peer response can be used to help brainstorm ideas, strengthen arguments, form connections, clarify language, and ensure a work s readability.

You don't need to be an expert to provide good peer response. All you need to be is a willing and considerate reader. Even professionals across different fields use peer review; writing is meant to be a collaborative process!

Don't worry about pointing out every single error or problem you find; this can be overwhelming and unproductive for both you and your peer. Focus on the big picture, such as the development of ideas and the organization of the paper. Are supporting points logical and supported or confusing and unclear? Are there any major patterns of grammatical issues that disrupt your reading experience?

Peer response shouldn't make you feel bad about your writing. Rather, it should show you how someone else sees your writing. Even experienced writers need evaluation and fe