

Causal Argument Peer Review

<u>Writer</u>	<u>Reviewer</u>
Guiding Questions	Reviewer's Response
What's most effective about the claim ? What are its strengths?	
Is the claim sufficiently qualified ? Is it specific enough to be clear? How could it be narrowed and focused?	
Does the claim reveal a causal connection? How could it be revised to make the causal links clearer?	
Is it immediately evident why the claim is important ? How could it be rephrased in a way that more forcefully and clearly suggests its significance?	
What's the strongest evidence offered for the claim? What, if any, evidence needs to be strengthened?	
Is enough evidence offered that these particular causes are responsible for the effect that has been identified, that these particular effects result from the identified cause, or that a series of causes and effects are linked? If not, what kind of additional evidence is needed? What kinds of sources might provide this evidence?	
How credible and persuasive will the sources likely be to potential readers? What other kinds of sources might be more credible and persuasive?	
Have all the major alternative causes and effects as well as objections to the claim been considered? What support is offered for rejecting these alternatives (counterclaims)? Where is additional support needed?	
Are all quotations appropriately introduced with introductory signal phrases (such as "As Wilson argues,...") and blended smoothly into the writer's sentence structure?	

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Is the organization of the essay effective, or would some other structure work better?	
Will readers understand the relationships among the claims, supporting reasons, warrants, and evidence? If not, what could be done to make those connections clearer? Are more transitional words and phrases needed? Would headings or graphic devices help?	
Which sentences seem particularly effective? Highlight which ones seem weakest, and suggest how they could be improved. Should some short sentences be combined, or should any long ones be separated into two or more sentences?	
Highlight words and phrases that are particularly effective, vivid, and memorable. Circle words and phrases that seem dull, vague, unclear, or weak for the audience or the writer's purpose, and include suggestions for improvement.	
Mark any errors in spelling, punctuation, or capitalization.	
Does the writer utilize the correct MLA formatting style and documentation for all parenthetical and bibliographical citations? Provide suggestions.	
Overall, what comments do you have for how this essay could be improved?	