



Notes for Critiquing Sessions

To help you provide effective feedback, here are some things to consider while you read over a submission:

1. What did you like about this piece?
2. How did it make you feel?
3. Opening: Did it grab you? Did the story start at the right place?
4. Conflict: Emotional conflict? External conflict?
5. Plot:
 - a) Clear, and believable?
 - b) Clearly defined problem to solve?
 - c) Setting determined early enough (time & place)?
 - d) All scenes necessary to the plot?
 - e) Flashbacks: Too many? Did they break your attention?
 - f) Too many subplots?
 - g) Pacing?
6. Setting: Convincing & well drawn?
7. Characterization:
 - a) Did the people seem real?
 - b) Were the facts about them consistent?
 - c) Were the characters complex enough?
 - d) Did the protagonist undergo some change?
8. Ending: Did conflict & tension come to a reasonable ending? Resolution? Were you satisfied?
9. Sense Details: Show vs tell? Too much abstract language? Do we get the chance to interpret what the characters were feeling, or did the author just tell us directly?
10. Dialogue: Too much? Too little? Believable for the character? Accents, diction, vocabulary, rhythm of speech?
11. Point of View: Consistent, and correct?
12. Style and Language: How did it affect you, and add/detract from the writer's intention?