

# Reader Response 1

College Composition 1

Due date: 9-9-16

Your goal is to write a critical analysis as a reader and respond to one of the articles in *CEL* Ch. 2. You have a choice of three.

- 2-3 pages (no more, no less)
- MLA formatted paper – no work cited page needed
- Submitted to [www.turnitin.com](http://www.turnitin.com) by due date at 11:59 p.m. (Don't lose points due to late submissions.)
- Written in BearWorks (Google Docs) class folder Ms. Koladin shares with you.
- In BearWorks (Google Docs) YOU MUST give Ms. Koladin commenting and editing privileges on your document. If she can't comment, she can't grade it and give you feedback.
- Scoring guide is the Stark State English Rubric

What is a Reader Response? (This part is directly from the class syllabus)

*You will be asked to both summarize and analyze these texts in order to learn more effective ways to engage ideas, language, and your own reactions. The summary should be brief with the response focusing on interpretation and analysis of the reading and how the author's rhetoric helped make his or her point. Consider the author's purpose and audience. Challenge the author's assertions. What impact has this reading and its assertions had on its audience? on you personally? You are analyzing and evaluating the text, including content, assumptions, claims, and issues it raises. Consider how effective or how ineffective the author was using rhetorical strategies for his or her purpose. (There is no formal review for peer review.)*

## HINTS:

- Make sure to write the name of the text you're responding to in the first paragraph along with the author's name. Use proper MLA format when necessary in your response paper.
- Give a very brief summary in just a few sentences of the main idea of the text in your first paragraph.
- The phrase "according to ..." is a great way to introduce what the author has to say.
- Whenever you use direct quotes from the text as specific examples (which is an EXCELLENT idea for this assignment), make sure to include the page number in an MLA in-text citation.
- This assignment is so much more than a summary of the content; it is a response to the content and HOW the author presents the content to the reader, the audience. (Think back to the Rhetorical Tools. Do these help the author write an effective essay?)
- Further help for this assignment can be found in *CEL*, Ch. 6 "Analyzing Written Texts." Ch. 6 is not required reading at this time.

More on the back ...

**You can be most successful writing a reader response if your writing includes the following:**

The moves the writer makes to achieve a clear message. (How the rhetoric is used and organized.)

- and -

Is the author **EFFECTIVE** or **INEFFECTIVE** at making that message clear? (your opinion with evidence)

Use specific comments on the author's rhetorical choices.

Don't write that the author does a good job. Instead, write what about the author's choice is effective for the message.

**Which sample thesis do you think is most effective for a reader response paper?**

1. I really enjoyed Ken Macrorie's article about college writing a lot.
2. I agree with the author's assertion that college students should write using their own voices.
3. Macrorie's rhetoric to convince students to write in a lively voice and to persuade instructors to embrace students' active voice was highly effective.
4. In "The Poisoned Fish," writing instructor and author, Ken Macrorie effectively uses several rhetorical strategies to make his main points.
5. The main points in Macrorie's "The Poisoned Fish" that college professors should not require English, that students should not write in English, and that students should write from their own voices were made clear in the article.
6. The author's rhetoric was not effective at all.
7. Macrorie's rhetoric in "The Poised Fish" was both effective and ineffective.