

WRITING WORKSHOP FEEDBACK PROTOCOL

(modified from protocol developed by Peggy Silva, Souhegan High School, NH, 2007).

Before starting, someone volunteers to facilitate- responsibilities:

- keeps the group focused on offering helpful and specific critique of writing piece and addressing writer's feedback suggestion
- reminds group members to avoid correcting typos, spelling, or grammar
- pushes group members to explain/clarify/elaborate their feedback
- helps to maintain norms of respectful behavior and language
- keeps track of time; lead the group through each phrase

FEEDBACK SESSION

1. **Writer's Feedback** (dilemma) [1-2 minutes]: Writer hands out copies of draft for the group. Writer states/explains the specific dilemma(s) that he/she is facing with the writing piece. Group members should write this dilemma somewhere on the paper.
2. **Read Aloud** [3-5 minutes]: Writer reads draft aloud or asks someone in the group to read it aloud.
3. **Warm Feedback** [2-3 minutes]: Participants comment on the strength of the piece. This has to be an authentic affirmation; it is not okay to say, "It's good. I like it." We also never use the word "but" in this phase of the feedback.
4. **Cool Feedback** [5-7 minutes]: Group discusses the writer's dilemma- this should include specific suggestions or ideas. The writer should listen more than speak. The writer may clarify information, but it is most helpful for the writer to take notes on the discussion.
5. **Response** [2-3 minutes]: Writer responds to the feedback- he/she may talk about specific ideas or suggestions that were helpful or things that gave him/her something to think about; can also talk about what plans he/she has for the piece.
6. **Loose Ends**: Group members return the drafts to the writer, especially if they have made notes on the page. The writer thanks the group and offers to facilitate the next session.