

Acknowledgment and Response Workshop

Purposes: To give and receive feedback on controversial and unsubstantiated statements; to respond to the objections of your essay's readers; to refine your essay's claims

Task: With your group, run through Part 1, person by person, until every group member has received feedback. Then move on to Part 2.

PART 1: Group Work (10-12 minutes)

Step 1: Writer reads their **most surprising or controversial statement** from the paper.

Step 2: Group members silently write down **objections/concerns** to that claim on scraps of paper.

Step 3: Writer reads their **least substantiated statement** from the paper.

Step 4: Group members silently write down the **kind of evidence** they'd expect to see to support such a statement.

Step 5: Writer collects scraps.

Repeat the process for each group member.

PART 2: Independent Work (7-10 minutes)

Step 1: Writer reads **objections/concerns** and **expectations for evidence**.

Step 2: Writer compares this feedback to the acknowledgment and response section(s) of their essay.

Step 3: Writer writes down **possible responses** to unaccounted-for objections and expectations.