**Questions**

**Asking for Draft Assistance**

When you ask for teacher-as-editor or peer-editor comments, please be directive. **Write questions at the top of your drafts or add them in comment boxes to the right of the area of concern.** If you hand in a draft with no directive, it will come back to you with no comments, suggestions or markings.

 **Basic questions (to post at the top of a draft)**

* Are you confused by the content of this piece?
* Are you interested in the content of this piece?
* Are you satisfied with the content of the piece once you have finished?
* Does the paper have a focus?
* Does the paper have a voice?
* NOTE: You may also highlight or circle parts of a paper which are giving you problems and ask for comments on that particular part.

**Matters of Content (to post in margins)**

* **Organization** Does \_\_\_ work here? Does this point follow the previous point?
* **Effective lead** Is this opening line effective?
* **Developmen**t Have I said enough to make my point clear here?
* **Use of details** What more should I say? Is there something missing that would make my point clearer? Do these ideas work well together?
* **Action verbs** Can you help me think of what this verb is missing?
* **Showing rather than telling** How can I show what I mean here?
* **Support**  Do I explain my point clearly? Do I use my examples correctly?
* **Logical transitions** (flow) Is my essay too choppy?
* **Narrow focus** Am I rambling? To I need to omit some of the material?
* **Relevant material** Does all this fit the topic? Am I off base here?
* **Effective ending** Do I leave my audience/reader with a thought-provoking idea? Is this too flat? Too ordinary? Too static?

**Stylistic Choices (more top-of-the-draft questions)**

* **Variety in sentence length** – Do I vary my sentence lengths enough? Is the writing too choppy? Too flat?
* **Variety in sentence structure** – Have I maintained audience interest by varying my sentences enough?
* **Diction (Wording)** – Do the words fit the intentions or ideas?
* **Use of figurative language (similes, metaphors)** – Do I offer interesting and original comparisons?
* **Coherence –** Does the piece flow easily and logically from one idea to the next? Are there sentences, paragraphs, or pieces of text out of order?
* **Clarity** – Do my ideas make sense?