Literature Review Peer Review Questions and Prompts

Use these prompts and question to categorically give feedback to the papers you peer review in your group. Click on the paper and leave specific comments and feedback. Depending on the technology, you might even be able to leave a summative voice comment at the end as a way to supplement your specific comments. At the end of the review, don’t forget to give them “metric” feedback.

NOTE: As a general rule of thumb, provide feedback on both things that are working AND things that “need development” and/or attention.

And finally, don’t forget about the rubric: Literature Review Rubric

- Look at the title page, and particularly the title.
  - It should be more than a “mere restatement of topic”. It should be enticing without being cutesy.
    - Give some feedback and suggestions for better titles.
  - The Literature Review should give a general historical overview of the topic, the current trends/practices, and the controversies and debates within the topic.
    - See if they follow this organization for the body of the lit review.
    - Clear topic sentences should be present to indicate the major shifts.
      - Comment on the breadth, depth, and overall coherence of the lit review.
      - Cite specific examples to help them see what needs to happen in the way of revisions.
- Look at a body paragraph or two and assess their use of quotes and paraphrased material.
  - Do they strive to use a variety of ways to integrate and blend in research?
  - Are they overusing quotes when they could’ve easily paraphrased it?
- Look at the beginning and end of the paper.
  - For the intro, do they move from the broad to the specific, including a thesis?
  - What about the conclusion?
    - Do they have a distinct break from the previous body section that suggests this is the concluding part of the paper?
    - They should, by the way, be using an L2 APA Heading to designate the transition to the conclusion.
- Review the “Reference” page for formatting.
  - It should be titled as such, alphabetized, indented properly (hanging indentation), and make use of shortened “Retrieved from” web addresses (main domain name is all that’s really needed).
  - No numbering or bullet points.
  - If there are multi author sources, are they following the guidelines for giving credit for both or all appropriately?
  - Do they demonstrate good breadth and depth of resources, including different types of sources?
- What about the general attention to APA formatting?
  - How did they do with the title page, running head, in-text parenthetical citations, etc.?
    - Look back through the paper and make a constructive evaluation, citing specific examples when possible.
• How would you rate their intro as moving from the broad to the specific thesis?
• How would you rate the development of the body sections? Do they have enough in each and does it seems to fit in the right category?
• How would you rate their use of parenthetical/in-text citations in the paper?
• How would you rate their conclusion as moving from the specific to the very broad and in building a bridge to the next section of the paper?
• How would you rate their formatting of the References page?
• How would you rate their command of grammar and mechanics?
• How would you rate their overall command of APA formatting?
• How would you rate the overall, holistic strength of this paper?