

Transcendentalism Personal Narrative Editing Worksheet

Writing a more creative piece of writing is a bit like juggling, you have to weave many things together at once. Will your theme or message be clear to your reader? Do your literary techniques and devices help make your message clear, or do they distract? Is your language fresh and descriptive? It can be hard to make sure that all of these things are happening at once!

Step 1:

Authors

This section is designed to help you get a better sense about whether your message is clear to your reader. Before you hand your paper over to your peer editor, answer the following questions:

1. State which Transcendentalist theme you chose to highlight in your piece:

2. Which two questions or concerns do you have about your piece that you want your editor to be on the lookout for?

1. _____

2. _____

Now switch papers with someone near you.

Step 2:

Peer editors

Peer editing is helpful for two reasons. First, it helps the author of a piece understand which parts of his/her writing were most successful in conveying the message. Second, it helps you (as the editor) hone your own reading and writing skills by picking out specific places in a piece of writing that could be improved. Follow these steps as you peer edit:

1. Read through the piece once without writing or circling anything.
2. Read through the piece the second time, and then write at the bottom of the paper what you think the important Transcendentalist message is.
3. Read through the piece the third time, and this time try to answer or address the questions or concerns that the author has about his/her piece. Address or answer those questions here: _____

