Critique Sheet - Explanatory Essay

# Information:

This essay is more focused on providing an explanation than on presenting an idea, so the questions here are a bit different to the questions we ask about other types of essay.

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| **Do you understand**   * **why the author wrote about their event?** * **what happened in the event?** * **why it happened?** * **why the event was significant?**   **If not, how could the essay be changed to make these more understandable?** |

# Organization:

This outline had a “suggested structure”. The author does not *need* to follow this structure precisely, but their essay needs to be clearly organized and easy to follow.

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| **Was this essay easy to follow, and does it contain all the information it needs to contain?**   * **If not, how could it be changed?** |

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# Authorial Voice:

Every essay gives you a sense of the person who wrote it.

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| **Do you have a sense of the writer’s personality, and why they wrote about this event?**   * **If not, how could their voice come through more clearly?** |

# Words:

Authors of high-quality essays choose words which make the essays engaging and easy to understand, and which are geared towards the intended audience.

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| **What words and phrases are particularly effective or problematic in this essay?** |

# Sentences:

An essay with well-constructed sentences flows well, and sounds good. The best test for this is to read passages from the essay out loud.

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| **What sentences are most effective, or most problematic?** |

**Don’t focus on conventions like spelling and punctuation during this critique. These are the responsibility of the copy-editing team.**