ABSTRACT

In composition courses there are two widely used strategies for providing feedback to written drafts: the peer review and conference. This presentation underscores the importance of these two strategies for engaging student writers generally, but specifically focuses on tools and techniques that will facilitate student success in ESL and developmental writing courses. The presenters will provide their ideas about effective peer reviews and conferencing by discussing such areas as rubrics, appropriate questions, the “what ifs?”, preparing students, and the use of technology. We have found that when students learn to evaluate their own writing they take ownership of their work and ultimately become better learners. The key role for the teacher is, therefore, facilitator rather than arbitrator.

ESL, Literacy, Writing