

***Note: This handout helps students edit classmates' writing in class. Form created by Carole Srole and Chris Endy, Cal State LA History Dept.*

HIST 2020 Paragraph #1 Feedback for _____

Name of Editors (the students providing feedback): _____

1. Does the topic sentence argument (TSA) answer the assigned question? Check the assignment instructions to see the question that the author is supposed to answer (Role A, B, C, etc)	very well	ok	needs work
2. Does the TSA briefly summarize the author's main "reasons why" ?	very well	ok	needs work
3. Does the paragraph have enough evidence — five short quotations or details from the relevant sources?	yes	almost	needs work
4. Is the evidence strong? That is, does the evidence address the assigned question?	very good	ok	needs work
5. Do the sentences provide brief context that allow readers to understand the significance of the quotations or detail? (<i>As writers, we can't just drop a quotation out of the blue; we need to help readers see the context in which the quoted words were first said.</i>)	always	sometimes	needs work
6. Does the essay needlessly paraphrase the content of a quotation before or afterward? (<i>If a quotation's meaning is simple and clear, you don't need to waste valuable space repeating its meaning. Just move on to your next example. Only use space to explain complicated or counter-intuitive quotes.</i>)	rarely or never	sometimes	a lot
7. Does the paragraph provide citations (page numbers in parentheses) for each quotation or detail? <i>Note: It's ok to save citations for the end of a sentence, rather than interrupting the flow of a sentence by putting a citation in the middle of a sentence.</i>	always	sometimes	needs work
8. What is your favorite sentence in the paragraph? Draw a "happy face" next to that sentence on the paragraph and write in the margins why you like this sentence.			
9. Cross out at least five unnecessary (wasted) words in the paragraph. (You might have to replace some words to cut out five words).			
10. Suggestions or advice for future paragraphs and essays:			