

10/27

PEER REVIEW FORM

Field Observation Essay

Writer's Name: Anjali Kamath
Reviewer: Ashrithy Mora

PART 1 — What is being observed?

(grounding the scene)

1. What is the writer observing?
(name the setting, activity, or interaction you understood from the draft)

Reddit (online website).

2. Could you *picture* the scene as a reader?

- Yes, clearly
 Partly
 Not yet

If "partly" or "not yet," what specific detail could the writer add to help you *see* or *feel* the moment?

PART 2 — Depth of Observation

(quality of noticing)

3. Where in the draft did the writer notice something **specific** (not general)?
Quote or describe that moment:

Anjali is noticing details all over the paper, she's vividly describing Reddit & its community.

4. Where could the writer **slow down** and notice more?
Be concrete:

I believe ^{her} observations are well noted, she's offering:

- Imagery - reading fluency
- Vividness
- details

what is the author's

The Argumen
instor

PART 3 — Meaning / Interpretation

5. What *meaning* is starting to emerge from the observation?
(What is this really about — below the surface of “what happened”?)

I believe is really about how socially ppl
have collectively found a safe space to vent.
And she's observing how ppl behave.

6. What question is the essay *implicitly* asking or circling around?

• How do ppl conform to Reddit and collectively
make a safe space out of it?

PART 4 — Reader Response

7. As a reader, I am most interested in...
(what pulled you in / what you wanted more of)

The psychology behind ppl getting on Reddit
to vent.

8. One thing the writer might deepen or explore further is...

nothing, but in terms of format I believe
is a good idea if she moves her ideas around
and connects them w/ transitional sentences.
Integrate primary source into secondary. (Sheet practice).

PART 5 — Next Step for Revision

If the writer only revised **one** thing next, what should it be?

- Slowing down the scene
 Adding concrete detail

WHAT ACTUALLY MAKES WRITING SMART?

A Guide for Writers Who Think Their Voice Isn't Enough

1. Smart writing starts with clear thinking.

If you understand what you want to say, your readers will too. Being clear takes more intelligence than being complicated.

2. Your real voice is your biggest strength.

How you naturally speak, explain, and understand the world — that is where your intelligence shows up. You don't have to sound like anyone else to be taken seriously.

3. Smart writing is honest and specific.

Real examples, personal insights, and concrete details will always be more powerful than vague, overly "academic"-sounding sentences.

4. Smart writing makes meaning, not noise.

You don't need big words to sound smart. You need accurate words. You need clear ideas. You need your way of seeing things.

5. You don't have to perform intelligence.

You already have it. Smart writing doesn't come from fancy vocabulary — it comes from your ability to express your ideas in a way readers can follow.

6. Smart writing grows with revision, not perfection.

A strong draft simply needs to capture your thinking. It can be messy. It can be imperfect. It can be in your voice. Everything else can be shaped later.

7. Smart writing reflects YOU.

Your perspective. Your analysis. Your way of understanding the topic. You don't need to imitate a textbook or erase your dialect. Your voice is not a barrier — it's the foundation.

REMEMBER:

Your voice is enough.

Your ideas are smart.

Your writing doesn't have to pretend — it has to communicate.

Achanty Mora

Finding Secondary Sources

Instructor: Professor Ervin Date: 10/22

What is a Secondary Source?
A secondary source interprets, analyzes, or comments on a primary source, historical event, text, or social phenomenon. It is not the original artifact, but scholarship or commentary about it.

- Examples of Secondary Sources**
- Scholarly articles
 - Literature reviews
 - Books or book chapters written by researchers or historians
 - Critical essays or academic journalism

- Where to Find Secondary Sources**
- Academic databases (EBSCOhost, JSTOR, Project MUSE)
 - University library books and ebooks
 - Credible news or cultural analysis from recognized publications

- How to Search EBSCO (Step-by-Step)**
1. Go to the CCNY Library website
 2. Click "Databases" → "EBSCOhost"
 3. Select "Academic Search Complete"
 4. Enter 2-3 keywords from your topic
 5. Use filters on the left (peer-reviewed, date range, subject)
 6. Click "PDF Full Text" or "HTML Full Text" to view article
 7. Read the abstract first to decide if it fits your research

- Quick Class Activity**
Using EBSCO:
1. Search for ONE secondary source related to your topic.
 2. Write down:
 - Title of the article
 - Author
 - Publication
 - One sentence on why it is relevant

Exit Slip: How does this source help you understand your topic more deeply?



10/14

Mini Integration Practice Handout

Instructions: Read the primary and secondary sources for each example. Use the first one as a model, then try writing your own integrated paragraph for the remaining examples.

1. **Example with integration:** - Primary: "During the morning rush, the subway car was packed, with commuters standing shoulder to shoulder." - Secondary: "Public transportation studies show peak crowding on subway trains occurs during morning commute hours (Lee, 2021)." - Integrated paragraph: "Observing the subway during the morning rush, the car was packed with commuters pressed together. This aligns with Lee's (2021) research showing peak crowding during morning commute times."

2. - Primary: "At 2:00 PM, the library was nearly empty except for a student napping at a corner table." - Secondary: "Library usage typically dips in early afternoon, with only a few patrons lingering (Martinez, 2018)." - Your integrated paragraph: _____

3. - Primary: "On the playground, children were lining up for the swings while parents chatted on nearby benches." - Secondary: "Playground studies suggest swings are among the most popular equipment for children ages 4-10 (Kumar, 2020)." - Your integrated paragraph: _____

4. - Primary: "During lunch hour, the food truck had a long line, mostly composed of office workers." - Secondary: "Food truck usage peaks around midday in business districts as office workers seek convenient meals (Nguyen, 2019)." - Your integrated paragraph: _____

5. - Primary: "The park's jogging trail had only a few people, mostly older adults walking their dogs." - Secondary: "Parks tend to see higher participation from older adults in low-intensity exercise activities (Smith & Allen, 2017)." - Your integrated paragraph: _____

6. - Primary: "At 5:30 PM, the farmers' market was crowded with families buying fresh produce." - Secondary: "Studies on local markets suggest that evening hours see higher family attendance, often with children involved in shopping (Lopez, 2020)." - Your integrated paragraph: _____

7. - Primary: "The coffee shop had a group of teenagers playing board games while others studied quietly." - Secondary: "Cafés increasingly function as social spaces for teens in addition to study areas (Patel, 2018)." - Your integrated paragraph: _____

8. - Primary: "During the city parade, spectators lined the streets waving flags and taking photos." - Secondary: "Urban celebrations attract diverse crowds who engage in both passive observation and active participation (Reed, 2019)." - Your integrated paragraph: _____

9. - Primary: "At the morning yoga class, most attendees were women, with only a few men present." - Secondary: "Health studies indicate that yoga classes tend to have higher female attendance compared to males (Chen, 2020)." - Your integrated paragraph: _____

work smarter not harder.

→ "Library usage is typically low @ about 2pm. which aligns with (Martinez, 2018) library observations exempting one student that was napping at a corner.

10. - Primary: "The museum gallery was quiet, with only a handful of visitors observing the paintings." - Secondary: "Visitor studies suggest weekday afternoons see lower attendance in art galleries (Harrison, 2018)." - Your integrated paragraph: _____

What is the purpose of intergrating?

- During the field research. It'll help link primary/secondary sources and paraphrasing into 1.

How?

Primary vs Secondary

- Primary sources offer raw material while secondary offer paraphrasing along w/ other perspectives.

"Literary usage is a critical tool @ about the world with (Mantel, 2018) through observation, research and the student that was necessary to a writer."

consider synonyms + antonyms
Try not to repeat words.

Linking Words Handout

1. Showing Agreement / Support - aligns with - supports - reinforces - confirms - echoes
2. Showing Contrast / Difference - however - although - in contrast - on the other hand - yet
3. Showing Cause / Effect - therefore - as a result - consequently - thus - leads to
4. Giving Examples / Evidence - for example - for instance - specifically - such as - illustrated by / demonstrated by:
5. Showing Sequence / Time - first, second, next - then - subsequently - finally - meanwhile
6. Emphasizing / Highlighting - importantly - notably - significantly - it should be noted - especially

Tip for Students: Use these words to naturally connect your observations (primary sources) to research or studies (secondary sources) in your paragraphs.

Field Research:
(online) ↙

- Scholarly + Peer review articles etc (primary sources)
- TikTok + Twitter (secondary sources) main environment or main interpretation.

(1000 - 1250 words) (2501 - 3000 words)

Subject description ↙
Twitter + TikTok
(main environment + observation)

- #MentalHealthAwareness
- #SelfCare
- #DepressionTalk
- #HealingEra
- #SocietyOfBok
- #AnxietyRelief

algorithms to look @ + research.

(250 - 500 words)

observation field notes:

- language, tone + imagery
- smell, textures, sounds taste
- platforms physical descrip...
- behaviors + attitudes
- copying mechanisms
- * make sense of socio-demographic characteristics with personal experiences.

(750 - 1000 words)

Reflection:

- How did writing this feel?
- How did you end up choosing your topic?
- How was the process of writing this? what would you do differently?
- What other primary or secondary sources?

(250 - 500 words)