Reading and Responding to Drafts

Write down your answers to these questions as you read.
Spend at least 30 minutes reading and responding. Return this sheet and your responses to the writer.

Writers: Include this sheet and the reader's responses when you turn in your final draft.

1. Read the draft through once for an INITIAL RESPONSE.
   • What was your first impression of the paper as a whole?
   • What reaction did it leave you with?

2. Read through the paper a second time.
   • Does the draft meet the assignment? Why or why not?
   • What is the main idea and focus of the draft?
   • Mark the place in the paper where the main idea comes across. Does it need to be clarified or focused further? or introduced sooner?

3. Read the paper a third time.
   • Where does the writer offer evidence beyond his/her own experience?
   • How does the writer introduce the evidence?
   • When passages or examples are cited, does the writer explain how and why they're significant? Do the examples continually relate back to the main idea?
   • Identify at least one place where you need more evidence or more explanation.

4. Read the paper a final time.
   • Does the writer use patterns or images to help the essay cohere? (Explain)
   • Suggest anything that would improve the overall organization or development of the paper.

5. Write an alternate introduction or conclusion for the writer.