

Hats Readers Can Wear

Interested human being (person-to-person comments about content only)

"This reminds me of [something that happened to me]"

"I've felt like this too!"

"I'm amazed that you _____"

"I sympathize."

"I also _____"

Responder to the craft (person-to-writer comments about what writer did to evoke response in reader; what the writer did that worked)

"This part gave me goose-bumps"

"I can visualize the [place, person, etc.] perfectly"

"I love hearing the voice of the character; makes him real"

"LOL"

Coach or guide (writer-to-writer comments that help teach the writer about craft)

"These metaphors make the description more vivid"

"Yes! Examples like these really drive the point home"

"This part seems to be on a different subject. What do you think?"

"I love the opening. It grabs my attention and points me in the right direction"

Judge [evaluating effectiveness of writing based on external criteria; usually explanations are included]

"Well organized; each paragraph develops another part of the main idea"

"Logical fallacy? Check it out"

"Focus is shifting here"

"Varying the sentence patterns will give you a better flow"

Judge & executioner [criterion-based judgement, no explanation]

"Good"

"Frag."

"Awk."

"Vague"

"You can do better"