

RESPONDING TO CRITIQUES

The purpose of seeking a critique of your creative writing is for you to gain a new perspective on your work.

You may find that you don't agree with the contents of the critiques that you receive. It is your choice how you respond to the critique. Below are some tips to help.

Distance Your Emotional Response

Take some time to think about and recover from the critique experience before you respond.

You might like to write a journal entry or a letter to yourself about your feelings about the experience of being critiqued. This can also help with putting emotional distance between you, your writing and the critique.



Examine Your Feedback

- Ask
- ✎ Does the feedback fit?
 - ✎ If a solution has been provided, does it work for you?
 - ✎ Is it something lots of people would notice or just one person's preoccupation?

Look for patterns in the feedback (eg all critiques mention that too many adverbs were used in dialogue tags or that characters are real but the setting could use more description).

Decide What You Want To Do With The Feedback

If you believe that the feedback will improve your work, then incorporate the information and suggested changes in a redraft of your writing.

If you disagree with the feedback, why? Is it:

- ✎ the feedback is not right.
- ✎ you don't want to face the feedback (but feel it is right).
- ✎ you don't know how to fix the issues raised by the feedback.
- ✎ you want another solution.

**If a piece of advice doesn't feel right to you,
TRUST your instinct**

Appreciate

Whether you agree with their comments or not, remember to thank the people who have provided a critique: an email or card lets your critique providers know you are grateful for their time and input into your creative writing.



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