

AROUND

and

ABOUT

Around: This starts with the freewrite you have continued into your first draft. Exchange this draft, as well as your object drawing and word/quotation list with another member of your group (in groups of four, use partners). Look at the object drawing, and the word/quotation list; circle one word from the drawing, and one quote from the list, as the ones that had the strongest impact on you when you read them. Then, when you read the other student's draft, and respond in the form of a letter which asks three questions and makes one suggestion. In your letter, you *can't mention the object itself*, but you can ask three things about the writing or the writer that you think could be answered as that writing continues, or an idea about a new direction in which that writing could go.

About: Once you've completed the "around" feedback, return it to the student with whom you exchanged papers. Neither of you should look at that feedback – yet. Instead, using a loose sheet of paper, conduct a brief interview with that student; this time you should limit your questions to the object itself. Find out as much as you possibly can about the object – its age, size, weight, dimensions, manufacturer, etc. – you can leave blanks for answers that the person can't recall, but in those cases the person should check the object itself (if available) and add that information later.

FOR NEXT WEEK: Revise and extend your "around" piece using the feedback you've received. As before, take risks – don't follow any formula – but remember that the revised piece can only name the object once (you can revise where you choose to do this).

At the same time, fill out the description of the object as much as possible. Give every detail you can, and write it out just the way you might see an informational placard at a museum. I'll be posting a format for this placard, along with links to some useful resources, on our blog later this week.