Tips for Writing Comments

Best Practices that I Promise to Adopt
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Begin with Positive Remarks

Now I wake up to positive thoughts!

We're moving up the league!

I'm a genius!

I feel great!

I'm positive!

I'm rich in brilliant ideas!

I'm brilliant!

Success is mine!

Success is on the cards!

I'm super fit and I move around the pitch with ease!

We will win that title!

I'm a winner!

I feel fantastic too!
Limit Comments

Giving too much feedback can be overwhelming. Focus on three or four central observations rather than pointing out every problem.
for a holy war and get enough media attention to being this to the fifth and final sign. It is likely just a matter of time, the future holds the truth.

To conclude I have shown exactly how Christianity, in the past has shown all five signs of a religion turning toward violence. In the present day, only one sign remains. In time a church will call for a holy war of some nature against an enemy nation, or even an unseen force. If the final sign is shown, it will show probability toward Christianity becoming violent again and again through time. Unless the signs disperse, time can only wait for the final sign to show.

Chris,
you show the five signs as they were accomplished at different times in history. You have not made a compelling argument that a future holy war is inevitable.

why do you think this is inevitable? Do you think that we lack the appropriate safeguards against such a possibility?

Make sure you answer the question above and take note of the comment on p3.
Don’t do the student’s thinking

Leaving students with further questions to mull over will extend the benefit of the assignment and encourage them to deepen their understanding.
Resist the temptation to Edit

NEEDLESS TO SAY, THE PROOFREADER HERE AT SANDPIPER TOILET TISSUE HAS BEEN TERMINATED...

SALES

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Sometimes errors should be highlighted

Due to his grammar mistake, Wilbur found a position. It just wasn't the one he wanted.
Be Specific

- Underline a sentence and write:
  - “Can you rewrite this sentence?”
  - “Can you provide specific examples?”
Be Gentle

- While you don’t want to hand-hold, remember
- Students’ egos are often fragile. This may be their first written paper in a long time.
- Don’t use red ink. Research suggests you grade more harshly in red, than in black or blue.
- Emphasize the positive, or at least find something good to say.
- Intersperse your positive and negative comments.
- Criticize the paper, not the student. Don’t write “you fail to...” but “my difficulty here...”
Try to be alert when grading

[A cartoon showing a person thinking about spending a quiet evening at home with chocolate and wine, but then interrupted by someone asking what they are doing, and it turns out they are grading papers instead.]

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Don’t stick at it too long
You will have other opportunities to perfect the art of grading...
Be consistent in the markings you use
Avoid arbitrariness
Academic Integrity
• Accept that some time will be sacrificed in “assisting” students to appreciate the value of academic integrity.
Reward yourself with a Tee-shirt

YEA - I KNOW!
I should be grading papers