

Reviewer name: _____ Essay reviewed (code): _____

PEER EDITING — PHIL1002 Introduction to Philosophy: Mind & Will

Instructions:

- Read the entire Reaction Essay once before you proceed with peer editing.
- After reading the entire essay once, read it again as you answer the questions below. Select the option that is most applicable and, for some questions, write down your comments.
- Do not be afraid to give honest feedback. Even though you are asked to identify yourself in this sheet, the author of the Reaction Essay will not know who you are.

OVERALL STRUCTURE:

0. Did the Reaction Essay follow the structure assigned, with 5 paragraphs containing: (1) *Introduction*, (2) *Target Argument*, (3) *Objection*, (4) *Reply*, and (5) *Conclusion*?

☐ No, not at all ☐ Yes, but not entirely ☐ Yes

What could be improved in the overall structure and organization of the essay?

§1 INTRODUCTION

1.1. Does the *Introduction* indicate clearly and concisely what Descartes' position is on the topic of the essay? In other words, can you tell, just from the *Introduction*, what Descartes thinks about the topic?

☐ No, not at all ☐ Yes, but not entirely ☐ Yes

1.2. Does the *Introduction* state clearly and concisely whether the author of the essay *agrees* or *disagrees* with Descartes on that topic? In other words, can you tell, just from the *Introduction*, what the author of the essay thinks about the topic?

☐ No, not at all ☐ Yes, but not entirely ☐ Yes

1.3. Does the *Introduction* contain any errors in grammar, syntax, spelling, logic that are distracting? If so, use this space to indicate what they are:

§2 TARGET ARGUMENT

2.1. Does the *2nd paragraph* describe Descartes' argument clearly? ☐ Yes ☐ No
If not, what is unclear? How could it be improved?

2.2. Does the *2nd paragraph* describe Descartes' argument *accurately*? ☐ Yes ☐ No
If not, what is inaccurate? How could it be fixed?

2.3. Does the *2nd paragraph* include a statement of the Reaction Essay author's opinion about or evaluation of Descartes' ideas or argument? (NOTE: It shouldn't!)

☐ Yes ☐ No

2.4. Does the *2nd paragraph* contain any errors in grammar, syntax, spelling, logic that are distracting? If so, use this space to indicate what they are:

§3 OBJECTION (Counter-argument)

3.1. If the author of the Reaction Essay **agrees** with Descartes, does the *3rd paragraph* present a *potential objection* to Descartes' view? If, instead, the author of the Reaction Essay **disagrees** with Descartes, does the *3rd paragraph* present an *objection* to Descartes' view?

☐ Yes ☐ No

3.2. Is it a *good*, logically sound, convincing objection to Descartes' argument?

☐ Yes. If so, what do you like about it?

☐ No. If so, what don't you like about it?

3.3. Does the *3rd paragraph* contain any errors in grammar, syntax, spelling, logic that are distracting? If so, use this space to indicate what they are:

§4 REPLY

4.1. If the author of the Reaction Essay **agrees** with Descartes, does the *4th paragraph* present a reply to the potential objection raised in paragraph 3? ☐ Yes
☐ No

If, instead, the author of the Reaction Essay **disagrees** with Descartes, does the *4th paragraph* present:

- i) a way Descartes could respond to the objection in paragraph 3? ☐ Yes ☐ No
ii) a response to that potential reply by Descartes? ☐ Yes ☐ No

4.2. Do you find the reply/replies in paragraph 4 *good*, logically sound, convincing?

☐ Yes. If so, what do you like about the reply/replies?

☐ No. If so, what don't you like about the reply/replies?

4.3. Does the *4th paragraph* contain any errors in grammar, syntax, spelling, logic that are distracting? If so, use this space to indicate what they are:

§5 CONCLUSION

5.1. Does the *concluding paragraph* summarize *clearly*, *concisely*, and *accurately* all of the following: (i) *what* Descartes' view is on the topic of the Reaction Essay, (ii) *what* the Reaction Essay's position is in relation to Descartes' view (agree/disagree), and (iii) *how* the Reaction Essay's position is defended in the essay?

☐ Yes

☐ No

5.2. Does the *concluding paragraph* contain any errors in grammar, syntax, spelling, logic that are distracting? If so, use this space to indicate what they are:

GENERAL COMMENTS

6. How can the Reaction Essay be improved in terms of the *presentation* of ideas? Can you make any stylistic suggestion that would improve the essay's clarity? Be as specific as you can.

7. How can the *content* of Reaction Essay be improved? Can you think of other ideas, examples, arguments, thought experiments, etc., that would support the thesis defended in the Reaction Essay and make the essay more persuasive and logically sound? Be as specific as you can.

8. If you disagree with the thesis defended in the Reaction Essay and were not convinced by the essay's argument, briefly explain why you disagree and indicate what in the argument you found unconvincing. (If you can't identify something wrong in the argument, then you can't disagree with the thesis of the Reaction Essay).