

Building a Critique Group

Leadership:

What does a leader do?

Developing trust in leader.

Structure:

How often to meet? and where?

How many words?

How large a group? Mixed genre or genre-based group?

Mix of writing experience? or on the same level?

Timing for presenting material / critiques?

Other issues to work out before hand?

Giving Critiques:

To gain trust, be considerate of writer's feelings / Note writer's progress

Basic: Punctuation and word changes.

Comments on writing

Reader's reactions:

Emotional reactions to piece / Believability

Note where interest is engaged or lost

Broader Analysis:

Character development / Dialogue

Tension / Suspense development

Story arc / theme reinforced?

Receiving Critiques:

Open mind - no need to defend your choices

Grain of salt - not a mandate to change your piece

Ask questions; You can ask for what feedback you would like

Questions and Comments:

Genres: What kind of feedback is helpful in your genre?

Non-Fiction

 Technical

 Memoir

Historical / Historical Fiction

Fiction

 Science Fiction

 Mystery/Thriller

Children / YA Fiction

Poetry

Screen Writing