Responding to Student Writing: How do we know where to begin?

Articulation of clear expectations about the type of feedback you want (as a writer) or you are giving (as a reader/responder) provides structure and ideas of where the writer may be in their process.

**Bless, Address, or Press**

Use “Bless, Address, or Press” to help your reader(s) know how to best address your needs.

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<th>Ask for bless when you...</th>
<th>Ask for address when you...</th>
<th>Ask for press when you...</th>
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| • Are not quite ready for a full blown critique of your work  
  • Share writing that is more reflective or highly personal  
  • Share writing that you do not plan to develop into a polished piece  
  • Share a piece that is just for fun or inspiration | • Have a specific area that concerns you  
  • Need suggestions for where you should go with the piece | • Have a strong piece of writing that you think is a final draft  
  • Are ready to accept and understand suggestions made by others about your work |

*The source for this material can be located at the National Writing Project’s website, [www.nwp.org](http://www.nwp.org).*