



Feedback Tips

There are a number of websites which offer tips on writing good feedback. Some offer specific examples of feedback, others offer principles. Both are useful.

This Strathclyde guide is somewhat helpful:

<http://www.strath.ac.uk/learnteach/teaching/staff/assessfeedback/12principles/>

This one is also very useful:

<http://www.ukcle.ac.uk/resources/assessment-and-feedback/effectivefeedback/>

The following extract some of the key principles and provide some examples.

Principle: **Make sure feedback can be understood. Typing is advisable.**

Example: The essay was structured well. Clearly a lot of work was put into it.

Principle: **Do not personalise feedback too much.**

Example: This essay has engaged...

This essay has not quite fulfilled its early promise.

Principle: **Start with something positive.**

Example: This is a good attempt at the essay.

This essay shows clear evidence of research/thought...

This essay offers an interesting angle on the question of inflation...

There is some good use of evidence here and of some reading being done.

The essay tries to answer the question set and has a clear conclusion.

Principle: **Always be polite and constructive.**

Example: I would have liked to see more analysis of the bond market in this question...

Unfortunately the essay has a few points of misunderstanding...

Principle: **Make clear how the essay has/has not met the criteria.**

Example: While the essay has addressed well the first two parts of the question, it does not do so well in the final part...

More reading could have helped achieve more depth.

The argument is basically sound but the essay lacks depth. This is a pity particularly given that the word limit has not been used.

Principle: **Turn problems into opportunities.**

Example: This essay would have benefitted...

This essay would have been even better if...

In future essays...

This essay offers you plenty to build on...

The essay could have benefitted from the use of more examples.

Principle: **Point out irrelevant/overemphasised content.**

Example: The essay spent too long discussing general finance theory, rather than addressing directly the recent financial crisis...

The essay could have dealt with much more quickly the discussion of the labour-leisure choice without losing much.

Principle: **Point out missing content.**

Example: The essay should also have considered the other side of the argument.

Principle: **Detail what is wrong rather than state that it is.**

Example: This diagram is showing revenue maximisation, not profit maximisation...
There is some confusion in the essay on the specific question of profit maximisation as a goal.

Principle: **Highlight key areas of improvement needed.**

Example: The two main ways the essay could have been better were...