

***Eats, Shoots & Leaves* “Roundtable” Review**

What is it?

A ‘Roundtable’ review is a review that, unlike normal reviews, in which a single teacher or academic reviews a scholarly text, a group of teachers reviews a single book. The roundtable is usually moderated by a ‘guest editor,’ solicited by the editor of an academic journal, to set up the roundtable and guide the writers in a common theme and a direction.

Roles

Editor

Each group will have an editor. This will be one of our graduate students/current teachers. The editor will assist each author as the author develops his/her articles. They are the head of the project. They will set the tone of the combined article, help with instructions, guide decisions, and assist authors as they develop their writing. *They are the boss of the roundtable.*

The *Editor* also develops a title for the roundtable, as well as an overall theme or direction.

Authors

Each roundtable will have 3-4 authors. Each author will write a short review, as a teacher and student of grammar and the teaching of grammar. The review should be no longer than 2-pages single-spaced. The theme and direction of the articles will be under the direction of the editor, who will give the authors an opening prompt to get them thinking, and guide the authors through the process.

Articles

Each roundtable will consist of the following elements

Editor’s Introduction

In this short piece, the editor will write a brief introduction, telling the theme and the direction of the roundtable and giving short commentary on each article

3-4 Review Articles

A review article is a short academic piece in which a scholar or teacher writes about the importance, relevance, or interest of a particular book. The authors in this case are writing for other teachers. You should write about your opinions regarding the book as a teacher. Your editor will give you more direction, but you will consider such issues as:

- Should other teachers read this?
- What can they learn from it?
- How is it valuable for teachers (and how is it not valuable?)

The Final result will look something like this: (about 15-20 pages, total, in a single document)

Roundtable Title (Developed by Editor, with author input)	Article 3 (“Title”) (3-4 pages)
Editor’s Introduction (1-2 pages, at most)	Article 4 (“Title”) (3-4 pages)
Article 1 (“Title”) (3-4 pages)	Closing Words (Editor – if he/she feels like it)
Article 2 (“Title”) 3-4 pages)	Works Cited (if necessary)

Publishing

All five roundtables will be published on our website. The editors will be asked to rank each of the roundtables (except their own) for content and overall quality. The best roundtable will published in the Spring/Summer 2005 issue of the Language Arts Journal of Michigan (theme: Writing Matters).

Process:

These roundtables will be due at the beginning of class on November 16. This is the due date for the completed article – as a single MS Word file, including editors introduction and all articles. Your editor will set a schedule and deadline for developing drafts and final versions

You will have class time on Oct 26, Nov.2, and Nov. 11 to work on your projects.