

When you think about revising your play, here are some questions to ask yourself:

1. What did you like about your work?
2. What's the major conflict? How strong is it? Strong enough?
3. What's the dramatic ACTION of the play? What are characters doing to get what they want—what actions are they taking?
4. Did anything confuse you about your work?
5. What's the most important image or moment for you in what you've already written?
6. Do your characters all sound the same? Or like different people with distinct voices?
7. What does each character WANT? Are they going after something that's critically important to them? Are the stakes high enough?
8. Is the environment evocative? Does it add to the play?
9. What sections made you cringe? Which surprised you?
10. Can you explain what the play is about in 1 or 2 sentences? (The clearer you are, the clearer it will be in the play. But sometimes we don't know the answer to this until deep into the process.)
11. Is there anything you'd like to see more of? A more developed relationship? More specific behavior from a character? Stronger needs?
12. Were there any loose ends? Is something introduced in the play that kind of drifts away?

Remember: in spite of whatever constructive criticism you may receive, it's ultimately your play. It's not your job to do what everyone else tells you to do. Better to sift through any helpful comments and choose the ones most pertinent to your vision.

It's always a good idea to take notes when you're getting feedback on your play. Then you can refer to them later. You'll also be able to see if more than one person made a comment—confusion on the part of several listeners is always a very good clue that something needs to be clearer, stronger, etc.