

Evaluation Check List for Essay Writing

I. Introduction

- Did you write a clear thesis?

II. Body

A. Topic One (the first reason/example why you believe the thesis)

- Does the first topic sentence support the thesis?
- Do you explain each example and tell why it's important? (Don't just write a list)
- Are there enough examples, explanations, details to provide support for the first topic?
- Do the examples and details follow a logical order?
- Are the transition words used correctly?

B. Topic Two (the second reason/example why you believe your thesis)

- Did you use a transition to introduce your second topic?
- Do you explain each example and tell why it's important? (Don't just write a list)
- Is this second topic sentence different than the first topic sentence?
- Are there enough examples, explanations, details to provide support for the second topic sentence?
- Are these examples clearly different than the examples you used in your first topic?
- Do the examples, details, explanations, (support) follow a logical order?
- Are the transition words used correctly?

B. Topic Two (the second reason/example why you believe your thesis)

- Did you use a transition to introduce your second topic?
- Do you explain each example and tell why it's important? (Don't just write a list)
- Is this second topic sentence different than the first topic sentence?
- Are there enough examples, explanations, details to provide support for the second topic sentence?
- Are these examples clearly different than the examples you used in your first topic?
- Do the examples, details, explanations, (support) follow a logical order?
- Are the transition words used correctly?

C. Topic Three (The third topic is only necessary if you need to provide additional support for your thesis).

- ☐ Did you use a transition to introduce your third support topic?
- Do you explain each example and tell why it's important? (Don't just write a list)
- Is your third topic sentence clearly different than your first and second topic sentences?
- ☐ Are there enough examples, explanations, details to provide support for the third topic?
- ☐ Are the examples clearly different than the examples you used in your first and second topic?
- Do the examples, details, explanation follow a logical order?
- Are transition words used correctly?

III. Conclusion

- Did you restate the thesis?
- Did you sum up your two or three topic sentences?

IV. Overall Structure

- Does the whole essay flow in a logical order?
- Is each paragraph related to the paragraph before it and the paragraph after it?
- Do the introduction and conclusion match (are they discussing the same thesis and supporting ideas?)?

V. Grammar

- Do your subjects and verbs agree? (If the subject is plural, the verb doesn't add "s").
- Do your verbs follow a logical verb tense? For example, you don't switch from present to past or past to present without a good reason.
- Do your pronouns match the nouns they are replacing? For example, students/they; Gallaudet/it; Carol/she; Bob/he.
- Do you use capital letters where necessary? For example, proper nouns like English are always capitalized.
- Do you use the proper forms of related words? For example, success (n), successful (adj.), succeed (v), successfully (adv).
- Is your spelling correct?