

Rough Draft Essay Check Questions

MLA

1. On the right side of the page, is your last name and the page number ½ inch from the top on every page?
2. On the left side on the first page, do you have Your Name, the Teacher's Name, the Class, and the date (format: 15 February 2005) double-spaced?
3. Are your quotes cited? Is the format MLA? "... " (50).
4. Are your margins set at one inch?

Grammar

5. Did you use present tense?
6. Did you omit dead words such as thing, it, many, various, a lot, stuff, and clichés?
7. Did you refrain from using contractions, such as can't won't, didn't, etc.

Introduction

8. Does your essay discuss a general idea at the beginning in order to hook the reader?
9. Does your intro have the title of the book in italics? Is the author's name stated?
10. Does your thesis answer the question directly?

Body Paragraphs

11. Do your paragraphs start with a statement, a claim, related to the thesis that you must prove?
12. Do you have quotes in every paragraph to support your claims?
13. Did you explain the context for all of the quotes (who said it, when, what was the situation, what does it prove)?
14. Did you blend the quote with your own words?
15. Do your paragraphs end with analysis of the quotes in relation to the thesis?
16. Is your essay an answer to the prompt rather than just a summary of what happens?

Organization

17. Do the events in your body paragraphs go in order chronologically?
18. Are the events in your body paragraphs grouped in relation to one main idea per paragraph?
19. Do you have events and quotes from the beginning, middle, and end of the book?
20. Are all of the major stages of change in the lives of the characters covered in your essay?

Conclusion

21. Does your last paragraph restate what you have proved rather than adding new information or telling what happens at the end?
22. Do you end with a final thought?

Requirements

23. Did you use 12-point font?
24. Did you use Times New Roman?
25. Did you write at least two pages?