

Name \_\_\_\_\_

# RESEARCH PAPER: SELF-EVALUATION CHECKLIST

## HOOK

I have an edgy title

Does the paper have a hook? It may be a quote, and impactful sentence, strong statement, or interesting attention grabber.

- Yes, my hook is absolute gold
- Yes, I have the okayest hook
- My hook is garbage
- I have no hook

## GRAMMAR & MECHANICS

- Titles of books, magazines, films, and plays are italicized.
- Titles of articles are in quotation marks.
- Verb tenses are correct and consistent.
- Check commonly confused words:  
they're/their/there                      your/you're                      its/it's  
a/an    to/too/two
- To my knowledge, misspelled words have been corrected.
- Circle any words that are repeated unnecessarily. (Go back later and fix it).
- Check for comma splices. (Ctrl+F commas)

## ORGANIZATION, STRUCTURE, & DEVELOPMENT

Does your essay flow? Do your points flow from paragraph to paragraph in a clear, logical way? Is there a logical progression of thought? Do you avoid random transitions?

- The paper is well-organized and the flow of thoughts are natural
- The paper is generally okay, but needs some work
- The points feel random and/or lack connection and cohesion

## CONTENT

- Rate the content of the paper (basic ideas, points, evidence, and analysis)
  - Excellent
  - Pretty good, needs work
  - Weak, too simple

## WRITING STYLE: DICTION, CLARITY, TONE, VOICE

- My writing is generally clear and focused.
- I marked areas, if any, that are unclear, awkward, or confusing.
- I marked areas, if any, that were too informal or conversational in tone and word choice.
- I marked areas, if any, where I may have overused first person.
- I have checked my paper for 2<sup>nd</sup> person and ELIMINATED THE ENEMY.
- There are no contractions (i.e. don't, can't, won't, etc.) [Ctrl+F apostrophes]
- Rate the style of the paper (uses sophisticated diction and sentence structure)
  - Excellent - sophisticated and interesting writing style, strong vocabulary
  - Really good, but needs some polishing
  - Pretty good, needs work
  - Weak, too simple

## MLA

- I have a heading on the first page and I checked that it is correct, especially the date.
- I have the page numbers correctly formatted according to MLA.
- Parenthetical citations follow the format of Author's last name page number. Ex: (Steinbeck 34).
- Quotes longer than 4 lines are in block quotes (indented, no quotation marks, punctuation before parenthesis)
- My paper is double spaced
- My paper is in Times New Roman, 12 pt. font
- Correct MLA margins and spacing

## SOURCES

- I have all my sources, AND I have incorporated direct quotes in my paper.
- I have all my sources, but I haven't quoted all of them, yet.
- I do not have all my sources.
- I have checked for quote dumps.

## WORKS CITED PAGE

- My Works Cited page is formatted correctly
- I'm still working on my Works Cited page
- I have not yet started my Works Cited page