Checklist for Rough Draft Review: Short Fiction

Intro:

- 1. Is there an effective and interesting title? How can it be made more interesting?
- 2. Is an effective method of introduction used to introduce the topic at hand—does it engage you and make you want to read on, or is it boring and bland? Suggest a more effective way to start this essay.
- 3. Is there a clear thesis in the intro? Does the thesis present a specific interpretation of the selected story? Make suggestions for improvement.

Body:

- 1. Does each major section of the body begin with a topic sentence which directly relates to and supports the thesis (is the essay *unified*)? Make suggestions for improving the wording or for removing/adding information for better *Unity*.
- 2. Does paragraph development incorporate specific examples related to the author's claims (elements from the story: lines, dialogue, scenes, characters, symbols, etc.)? Suggest where the author might be able use specific examples to develop the paragraph more effectively.

Support:

- 1. Is the research documented correctly according to proper MLA in-text documentation standards (parenthetical citations)?
- 2. Is there ample *analysis* provided after specific examples and research? Does the author discuss how/why these relate to/support the thesis?
- 3. Is there any *personal insight* provided for the outside support -- does the author discuss how the support relates to/supports the thesis? Where can the author place more of his or her own personal insight for more effective development?

Formatting:

- 1. Is there a proper heading?
- 2. Are the pages properly paginated?
- 3. Is there a properly formatted Works Cited Page?
- 4. Point out grammatical errors or sentence-structure errors.