
Outline Checklist for Peer Review: Research-Driven Essay

Intro:

1. Is there an effective and interesting title? How can it be made more interesting?
2. Is a method(s) of introduction used to introduce the topic at hand effectively? Which method(s) are used? Suggest a more effective way to start this essay.
3. Does the author's thesis present a debatable or interpretive claim appropriate for the writing assignment at hand? Is the scope of the thesis appropriate for a 3-5 pg. essay? If not, how can it be made better?

Body:

1. Does each major body section begin with a complete topic sentence? Does it articulate a [subject] + [main point]? Is it effective and clear? Make some suggestions for improving each topic sentence.
2. Does each topic sentence directly relate to and support the thesis (is the essay *unified*)? Make suggestions for improving the wording or for removing/adding information.
3. Do the supporting details listed in each body paragraph directly relate to its topic sentence? If not, how can it be remedied? Are they specific and clear? Make specific suggestions for adding/removing information.
4. Are there supporting details that utilize specific, real world examples as a method of developing the paragraph? Make some suggestions for examples to use.
5. Do the supporting details show evidence of using *illustration* as a method of paragraph development. Suggest where the author might be able use specific facts, statistics, concrete nouns, or anecdotes to more effectively develop the paragraph.
6. Is there any use of personal insight? Suggest where the author might be able to include some insights to better develop the body of the essay.

Support:

1. Do the included bits of outside support (quotes, summaries, stats, etc) seem relevant to the essay's central idea? Is there enough outside support to fully develop the claim?
2. Are various sources referenced, or is all the supporting data from only one or two sources? Are there any sources from the online databases as required? From legitimate periodicals like newspapers or magazines?
3. Is there any analysis offered for outside support—does the author discuss how the support offered relates to the thesis? How it supports the author's claim?
4. Is the Works Cited page properly formatted?