

## Essay 1: Self-Check List

This list is meant to help you ensure that your essay includes many of the things I am expecting to see when I grade your papers. Please note that this is not a complete list, as there are some nuances of good writing that cannot be captured on a checklist (such as understanding of the readings and prompts, sophistication of argument, etc.). You will be required to turn in this completed checklist and your PEE charts together with Reaction Paper #2 when the final essay is due on March 23, 2017. If you can't check something off, you have some more work to do!

### Basic Requirements

- \_\_\_The essay adheres to MLA format, including a Works Cited page, headers, appropriate spacing and fonts.
- \_\_\_The essay is a minimum of 4 complete pages (not including the Works Cited page).
- \_\_\_The essay makes use of at least 3 sources that we read or watched together as a class.
- \_\_\_Each body paragraph contains two quotes.
- \_\_\_The essay properly cites all sources for quotes, paraphrases and any additional information with in-text parenthetical citations.
- \_\_\_The essay has a unique and interesting title that relates to the overall aim of the paper.

### Grammar and Style Requirements

- \_\_\_The essay is free of confusing sentences.
- \_\_\_The essay has been spell checked.
- \_\_\_The essay contains an introduction and concluding paragraph.
- \_\_\_The essay does not announce.
- \_\_\_The essay does not make use of contractions.
- \_\_\_The essay does not make use of first person ("I") or second person ("you").
- \_\_\_The essay has been proof read and is free of errors.
- \_\_\_The essay is free of fragment sentences.

### Paragraphs and Evidence

- \_\_\_The introduction follows the pyramid method: (1) begins with a hook; (2) has an appropriate lead-in to the thesis; (3) the last sentence is a thesis that includes a forecasting statement.
- \_\_\_Body paragraphs contain topic and concluding sentences.
- \_\_\_Body paragraphs come in the order set up in the thesis.
- \_\_\_Each body paragraph contains at least 2 quotes.
- \_\_\_Quotes are properly introduced and explained using the quote sandwich method.
- \_\_\_Quotes are not a sentence of their own.
- \_\_\_The first word of all quotes is capitalized.
- \_\_\_Quotes chosen are appropriate to the argument being made.
- \_\_\_Topic sentences clearly support and relate to the essay's overall thesis.