

CHECKLIST FOR ESSAY DRAFT

Title

Is the title original and does it capture the essence of the essay?

Introduction

Is hook effective? Does it grab reader's attention?

Have you provided enough background information?

Is the thesis statement clear? Does it make an argument or present a central idea?

Body Paragraphs

Does each paragraph have a clear topic sentence?

Do topic sentences relate back to the thesis?

Are all ideas relevant and connected to the main idea of each paragraph?

Have you allocated sufficient evidence to minor and major supporting points?

Are sentences consistent in length and easy to read? (not too long, short, or wordy)

Conclusion

Does it summarize the thesis and key points?

Does it discuss the overall significance or meaning of topic?

Is it convincing and powerful?

Does it make the reader think more deeply about the topic?

Does the conclusion agree with thesis?

Content & Audience

Does the essay answer the question(s) of the assignment?

Does it address a central issue or problem?

Do any ideas need further development?

Does it consider the readers' background knowledge or attitude toward the topic?

Is the point of view appropriate for your purpose? (1st, 2nd person etc.)

Have you checked for redundancy and eliminated unnecessary words or details?

Are your sources correctly cited in the text and do you have the right bibliographic entries (Works Cited, References, Bibliography) according to the citation style assigned by your instructor?

Coherence & Unity

Do ideas follow a logical progression?

Is there a central idea that guides your writing?

Do examples illustrate, clarify, explain or support your main idea?

Does the essay maintain a consistent tone, writing style, and point of view?

Have you used appropriate transition words to connect one idea to the next?

For additional help, please make an appointment with a Writing & Learning Centre writing instructor at: <https://alexander.mywconline.com/>

Information for this checklist came from:

Hacker, D. & and N. Sommers. *Canadian Writer's Reference* (5th ed.) Boston: Bedford-St. Martin's, 2012. Print.