

Core C Research Paper Parent's Checklist

Note to Parent: Thank you for helping your student revise the research paper. This is a multi-step process that involves many language skills, so the final product should represent not only that the students learned content, but also that they know how to structure and document a written argument. What you are reading is not the final draft. Please read and discuss this draft with your student, and then fill out the checklist below. Grades will NOT be assigned based on the number of "yes" responses, so please give honest feedback that will help your student improve later drafts. Students should be able to define any terms with which you are not familiar.

Student: _____ **Parent:** _____

Introduction...

- ...begins with an attention getter ("hook") that draws the reader in to the essay. ☐ yes ☐ no
- ...is written in the third-person (no "I" or "you" statements). ☐ yes ☐ no
- ...contains a clearly stated thesis. ☐ yes ☐ no

Thesis:

Body Paragraphs...

- ...contain clear claims that serve as topic sentences... ☐ yes ☐ no
 - ...that support the thesis made in the introductory paragraph. ☐ yes ☐ no
- ...contain textual evidence (examples/quotes/summaries from sources) to support claim. ☐ yes ☐ no
- ...contain appropriate transitions between examples/quotes/summaries. ☐ yes ☐ no
- ...contain commentary that explain/analyze quotes used. ☐ yes ☐ no
- ...contain a conclusion or transition statement to the next reason. ☐ yes ☐ no
- ...are written in the third-person (no "I" or "you" statements). ☐ yes ☐ no
- ...contain properly formatted parenthetical documentation... ☐ yes ☐ no
 - ...that refers to sources listed on the Works Cited page. ☐ yes ☐ no

In-text Citations...

- ...is evident in the body of the essay... ☐ yes ☐ no
 - ...eight or more parenthetical notations. ☐ yes ☐ no
 - ...four or more direct quotes. ☐ yes ☐ no
- ...includes proper elements (first word of Works Cited entry)... ☐ yes ☐ no
 - ...for books: author's last name and page number (Twain 34). ☐ yes ☐ no
 - ...for websites: author's last name only (Skidmore). ☐ yes ☐ no
 - ...for sources with no author: title of article in quotes ("Zeus"). ☐ yes ☐ no
- ...is properly spaced: one space after end of sentence, like this (Smith). ☐ yes ☐ no
- ...is properly punctuated: period at the end, like this (Thompson). ☐ yes ☐ no

Conclusion Paragraph...

...restates the thesis in different words.

☐ yes ☐ no

...summarizes claims made in the body paragraphs.

☐ yes ☐ no

...ends with a memorable clincher statement.

☐ yes ☐ no

Works Cited Page...

...is on a separate page.

☐ yes ☐ no

...is properly formatted: spacing, punctuation, indenting (after first line).

☐ yes ☐ no

...is properly alphabetized (by first word of entry).

☐ yes ☐ no

...contains proper spelling and punctuation.

☐ yes ☐ no

...contains at least four books.

☐ yes ☐ no

...looks neat and professional.

☐ yes ☐ no

Stylistic Details

The paper is between 6-8 pages long (not counting title page or Works Cited page).

☐ yes ☐ no

The writing is neatly typed, spell-checked, and free of errors.

☐ yes ☐ no

The writing contains an appropriate title that relates to the topic.

☐ yes ☐ no

The title is properly centered and formatted (same font size as essay).

☐ yes ☐ no

The student's last name and page number appears in the top right corner.

☐ yes ☐ no

The writing appears to be the student's best effort.

☐ yes ☐ no