

Compare/Contrast Essay Rough Draft Checklist

DIRECTIONS: Parents, please take time to proof your student's rough draft using the following checklist. Students should then make all necessary edits/corrections before turning in their first semi-perfect draft.

Step 1: Check Formatting

- FONT= Times New Roman size 12
- SPACING/MARGINS= Double spaced with 1 inch margins on all sides
- OTHER MLA= heading (1 inch from top)? Header (last name page number – ½ inch from top)?
- Do I have a creative title?
- Is my essay at least 900 words?

Step 2: Introduction/Thesis

- Does my introduction start with an attention-gaining hook that relates in a broad, general way to my thesis? (i.e. for an essay on the theme of hidden sin, maybe start with a verse on sin or a story about someone struggling with sin).
- In my narrowing from hook to thesis do I introduce TITLE and AUTHOR of both pieces?
- Is my thesis statement the last sentence of introduction paragraph?
- Does my thesis statement include all 3 steps of a c/c thesis: compare, contrast, make a point?
- Is my introduction paragraph at least five sentences long?

Step 3: Body

- Do I organize with either point-by-point or block formatting? Do I stay consistent to that form throughout the entire essay? (See the How to Write a c/c Essay worksheet for more info.)
- Does each body paragraph include a topic sentence that compares and/or contrasts AND PROVES THE POINT made in the thesis?
- Does each paragraph include quotes (textual support) from the text? Are the quotes cited correctly (MLA)?
Remember, if you are using two works by the same author, you need to include that info in the parenthetical citation. i.e. (Hawthorne, "Young Goodman Brown" 44). Also, if you are using a poem, you cite by line number, NOT page number!
- Does each quote help to PROVE/SUPPORT the topic sentence and thesis?
- Is each quote integrated into the sentence effectively? **See the Quote Integration PPT on Weebly!!
- Do I have transitions between ideas within a paragraph AND between paragraphs?

Step 3: Conclusion

- Does my conclusion start with a restated thesis (NOT exact wording as thesis)?
- Do I summarize my main points with out redundancy?
- Do I end creatively, possibly referring back to my hook?

Step 4: Grammar

- Did I check for grammar and mechanics and correct any errors I found?
- Did I make sure not to use first or second person pronouns or be-verbs in my essay?

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- Did I vary my sentence openers (i.e. no two sentences in a paragraph start with the same word; no two paragraphs in the essay start with the same word?)

I have taken time to go over my student's draft with him/her.

Parent Signature: _____

I have completed multiple edits and I am turning in my best-yet version of this essay.

Student Signature: _____