Core B Research ESSAY / Parent Checklist

<u>Note to Parent:</u> Thank you for helping your student revise the research paper. 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, taking time to walk through each step of the checklist with your student! Keep in mind that most students will benefit from more than one editing session. **Please turn this checklist in with the final paper.

Student: _____ **Parent:**_____

Introduction

- ☐ Begins with a general "hook" that draws the reader into the essay without giving away the topic.
- ☐ Narrows to the thesis (i.e. connects the general hook to the specific thesis).
  - ⇒ Info seems relevant and focused
  - ⇒ Avoid choppiness and wordiness
  - ⇒ Introduces topic without giving details which are repeated in the essay
- ☐ Contains clearly stated and argumentative thesis (final sentence).

Body Paragraphs

- ☐ Contain clear topic sentences that directly support the thesis.
- ☐ All information in paragraph directly relates to paragraph topic
- ☐ Contain at least two textual evidence (examples/quotes/summaries from sources)
- ☐ Contain commentary that explains/analyses but does not repeat quoted material
- ☐ Contain appropriate transitions between examples/evidences
- ☐ Contain clear clincher sentences which directly reflect topic sentences

- ☐ Contain transition statements between paragraphs which show variety.

  - ⇒ transitions may be at the end of a paragraph (preview next topic) or as part of the topic sentence (reflecting on last topic)

Conclusion

- ☐ Restates the thesis in different words (first 1-2 sentences).
- ☐ Summarizes claims made in the body paragraphs without being overly repetitive
- ☐ Draws a final conclusion / current application about the topic
- ☐ Ends with a memorable clincher statement (refer to hook, if possible).

In-text Citations

- ☐ Each paragraph contains a minimum of 2 citations (ideally two different sources)
- ☐ All sources on Works Cited page are cited within the essay
- ☐ Essay contains a minimum of 4 direct quotes from different sources
- ☐ Citations follow proper MLA formatting
  - ⇒ For books/database articles: author's last name and page number (Twain 34).
  - ⇒ For websites (not Ebscohost): author's last name only (Skidmore).
  - ⇒ For sources with no author: title of article in quotes ("Zeus" 64), title of books in italics (*Zeus* 77).
  - ⇒ Use proper spacing: one space after end of sentence, like this (Smith 22).
  - ⇒ Use proper punctuation: period at the end, like this (Thompson 34).

Works Cited Page

- ☐ Is on a separate page (header only)
- ☐ Is properly formatted: spacing, font (No blue hyperlinks!), punctuation, hanging indents
- ☐ Is properly alphabetized (by first word of entry).
- ☐ Contains proper spelling and punctuation (quotes & italics used properly)
- ☐ Contains at least two books.
- ☐ Contains at least 4 sources

Stylistic Details

- ☐ The paper is between 4-6 pages long (not counting Works Cited page). Four <u>full</u> pages minimum!
- ☐ The writing contains a creative title that relates to the topic, properly centered and formatted
- ☐ Correct MLA format (12 pt Times New Roman, Double spaced throughout, heading, header, 1" margin)
- ☐ No 1st or 2nd person pronouns, no contractions, no slang/idioms
- ☐ Variety of sentence openers throughout
- ☐ Strong wording throughout (watch those Be verbs!)
- ☐ Writing is free of spelling, punctuation, & grammatical errors

Final Research Paper - Folder Checklist

Final research papers must be turned in on Monday, May 9th – <u>no exceptions</u>.

- If your student cannot attend PEP that day, you must make arrangements to have the paper turned in by class time.

- In addition to your hard copy, please **submit a digital copy of your essay to Turnitin**.

- Please turn in your essay in a two-pocket folder organized based on the directions below.

Final Draft submission:
On the due date, bring the following to class in a two-pocket folder:

Left Side of Folder	Right Side of Folder
(from front to back)	(from front to back)
1. Notecards (in order of appearance)	1. Clean copy of Final Rubric
2. Graded Body Paragraph Outline	2. Final Draft of Essay
3. Graded 1st Five Paragraphs	3. Signed Parent Checklist
4. Graded Intro & Conclusion	
5. Graded Topic Sentence Outline	
6. Graded Topic-to Thesis Worksheet	

Points will be deducted for any item listed above that is not turned in with your final paper