

## MUSC COLL 150 Peer Review Checklist:

Ask yourself these questions as you write and edit your own work.

Use them as a guideline to help your peers with their writing.

Try reading your paper out loud to hear what it sounds like and to help your peers determine if any sentences stand out or need clarification.

### Overarching ideas:

1. What is my thesis/main topic sentence?
2. What is the topic sentence for each point & paragraph following?
  - a. Label each paragraph with a key word(s) and what the paragraph is about.
  - b. Are the keywords different from each other?
  - c. Do they support the main argument?
3. Do my topic sentences/key words connect to each other?

### Clarity and direction:

1. Is there any unnecessary or non-descriptive language that can be removed or replaced with specifics?

Ex: “Many people think,” “Experts believe,” or “Throughout the decades”
2. Am I using active voice when possible?
  - a. I.e., “ABC inspired the artist” vs. “The artist was inspired by ABC”
3. Do I have connector words or phrases like “In addition to” or “Moreover” that can be removed?

Simply stating the idea or fact is best practice.
4. Look at the sentences within each paragraph, does each one support the topic sentence for that paragraph?
  - a. If not, can any of the language be removed, edited, or clarified to support the topic sentence?

- b. Circle back to the “Overarching ideas” section if significant changes are made here.