

Self Response Form

1. Your essay should have an original title that reflects its content. What is your title?

Are you sure it's original? _____ (If you don't have one, add one **NOW**.)

2. Your essay should have a total of _____ paragraphs: 1 introduction, _____ body paragraph(s), 1 conclusion. How many paragraphs does your essay have? _____
(If you're missing any, add them **NOW**.)

3. Your **INTRODUCTION** should have 40+ words and 3+ sentences. How many words* does your introduction have? _____ How many sentences? _____ It should also grab the reader's attention and include your thesis. How does it grab attention? If this is a personal essay, which method did you use?

What is your thesis? _____

Is your thesis focused and on topic? _____ (Fix anything that needs fixing **NOW**.)

4. Each of your **BODY PARAGRAPHS** should have 100-150+ words and 8-11+ sentences.

How many words* does body paragraph a have? _____ How many sentences? _____

How many words* does body paragraph b have? _____ How many sentences? _____

How many words* does body paragraph c have? _____ How many sentences? _____

(Fix anything that needs fixing **NOW**.)

5. Your **CONCLUSION** should have 40+ words and 3+ sentences. How many words* does yours have? _____ How many sentences? _____ It should not repeat any key words or present any new information. It should be all commentary, and it should give a finished feeling to your essay. Does it repeat anything (especially the thesis)? _____ Does it present any new information? _____ Is it all commentary? _____ Does it give a finished feeling to your essay? _____ (Fix anything that needs fixing **NOW**.)

6. Your **TOPIC SENTENCES (TS)** should create flow from body paragraph to body paragraph. They should also be branches of your thesis, bringing your reader's attention back to the topic at hand. Does each TS create flow? _____ Is each TS a branch of the thesis? _____ Does each TS bring your reader's attention back to the topic at hand? _____ (If you answered **NO** to any of these questions, fix your TSs **NOW**.)

7. Underline all your **CONCRETE DETAILS (CD)**. Are they specific examples/facts? _____ Do they bring your reader's attention back to the TS and thesis? _____ Do they relate to the CMs in their chunks? _____ If this is a literary essay, is each CD a quotation from the work? _____ If this is a literary essay, did you cite your source properly? _____ (If you answered **NO** to any of these questions, fix your CDs **NOW**.)

8. Highlight the **COMMENTARY WORD(S) (CM)** in each sentence. Does each sentence have at least one word that expresses thought/opinion/belief? ____ Do the CMs relate to the CDs in their chunks? ____ Do the CMs work to bring your reader's attention back to the TS and thesis? ____ (If you answered NO to any of these questions, fix your CMs **NOW**.)
9. Check your **CHUNKS**. Do you have at least 2 CMs for every CD? ____ (If your ratio is incorrect, fix it **NOW**.)
10. Highlight **TRANSITIONS** (in a different color). Are they present between each chunk? ____ If this is a literary essay, did you maintain the proper use of TLQs? ____ (If you are missing any transitions, add them **NOW**.)
11. Circle all **REPEATED WORDS (nouns, adjectives, verbs, and adverbs only)** that appear in your essay more than twice. Remember to avoid thesaurus words you don't understand! (Replace all words repeated more than twice **NOW**.)
12. If this is a literary essay, read through the entire first draft and cross out all of the following **FORBIDDEN WORDS AND PHRASES: You, your(s), yourself, would, should, could, may, might, I, me, my, myself, mine, I think, I feel, I believe, In my opinion, In conclusion** (Rework your sentences so that they make sense without these words/phases **NOW**.)
13. Switch papers with someone and ask them to correct your **GRAMMAR**. Specifically, they should be looking for errors in spelling, punctuation, use of prepositions, subject/verb agreement and verb tense. When they return your paper, if you have any questions ask them. (If still unsure, please see me **NOW**.)
14. Finally, reread your thesis from number 3 of this self response form. Did you prove your thesis in this essay? ____ If so, how, _____
(If not, revise your paper accordingly **NOW**).

CONGRATULATIONS:
YOU ARE NOW READY TO TYPE YOUR NEXT DRAFT!

* Determining word counts:

- 1st—count all the words (including “the small ones”) in three lines. Write your total here ____.
- 2nd—divide the total from the 1st step by 3. Write your new total here ____.
- 3rd—count the number of lines in the desired section (introduction, body, conclusion, or the entire essay). Write your total here ____.
- 4th—multiply your total from the 3rd step by the answer from the 2nd step.