

Essay Self Evaluation Rubric

Introduction

- Did you begin with an interesting universal idea/hook?
- Did you link this idea to the sentences that follow it?
- Do you have a TAGY?
- Does your TAG come before you start discussing specifics from the work?
- Do you give brief context for your argument ([plot summary 1-3 sentences])?
- Does the context flow smoothly into your argument?
- Does your introduction preview what will appear in your body paragraphs?
- Do you end your intro with an argument (thesis!)?
- Does your argument outline what you will use in your body paragraphs as support?

Body Paragraphs

- Does each body paragraph only discuss one main reason/point?
- Does each body paragraph have a **topic sentence** that makes an argument relative to the main point of the body paragraph?
- Do your topic sentences have key words from the prompt?
- Do your topic sentences have key words from your argument or thesis?
- Are your topic sentences analysis based, not just a statement of plot?
- Do you have at least 2 specific supporting examples in each body paragraph?
- Do your examples show that you read the work- using detail?
- Do all your examples relate to the topic sentence / prove the argument being made?
- Do you analyze your examples using language relating to your argument or theme?
- If quotations are required, do you have at least **TWO** in each paragraph?
- If quotations are required, are all of them correctly written and cited?
- If quotations are required, are they introduced in your own words (integrated)? Context!
- If quotations are required, are they explained in your own words? Commentary!
(Remember: say/mean/matter)
- Does each body paragraph tie back to the thesis statement?
- Do you write through the work, beginning, middle, end?
- Does each body paragraph build on ideas presented in previous ones?

Conclusion

- Do you restate your thesis?
- Do you summarize your main points?
- Do you nutshell your argument in a way that includes all the evidence you've shown?
- Do you find a unifying idea?
- Do you end with universal messages and commentary?
- Did you find a way to make your argument relevant to readers?

Other

- Do you talk about the story in **present tense**?
- Is the essay in third person? (No I, me, my, mine)
- Did you maintain formal language throughout?
- Is your essay grammatically correct? Proofread for grammar issues such as fragments, run-ons, awkward wording, etc...
- Are you focused on your thesis, not on giving a summary of the story?
- Does everything in your essay relate to and support the thesis?
- Do you have a theme somewhere in your essay? Is the theme a full thought (not just one word)?
- Is your essay in the correct MLA format? ([MLA template guide](#))
- If required, did you include at least TWO quotations from an analysis article?
 - See [strategies](#) for using other sources in your own writing.