

Name: _____

ARGUMENTATIVE ESSAY CHECKLIST

Directions: As you write, use the checklist below to check whether each section of your essay contains the elements necessary for a strong, well-written paper.

DOES YOUR ESSAY CONTAIN THE FOLLOWING ELEMENTS?	YES	IN PROGRESS	NO
INTRODUCTION – This paragraph should open your essay by capturing the reader’s attention with a “hook”, providing a brief explanation of the background or context, and stating a claim (thesis) that addresses the essential question and task.			
Does your introduction open with a “hook” (a statement that would make your friend want to read your essay)?	YES	IN PROGRESS	NO
Does your introduction provide a brief overview of background information that the reader needs to know before reading your claim?	YES	IN PROGRESS	NO
Does your introduction end with a claim (thesis) that clearly addresses the essential question and task?	YES	IN PROGRESS	NO
Is your introduction written in clear and complete sentences that are free of spelling errors and grammatical mistakes?	YES	IN PROGRESS	NO
BODY PARAGRAPH 1 – This paragraph should discuss Malcolm X or Martin Luther King, Jr. and explain their philosophy on resistance. Remember, you’re not supporting your claim yet, just discussing the person’s philosophy.			
Does your first body paragraph start with a topic sentence that introduces Malcolm X or Martin Luther King, Jr. and their philosophy on resistance?	YES	IN PROGRESS	NO
Does your first body paragraph have at least two or three details that discuss Malcolm X or Martin Luther King, Jr. and explain their philosophy on resistance?	YES	IN PROGRESS	NO
Is your first body paragraph written in clear and complete sentences that are free of spelling errors and grammatical mistakes?	YES	IN PROGRESS	NO
BODY PARAGRAPH 2 – This paragraph should discuss the other leader (the leader you did not discuss in body paragraph 1) and explain their philosophy on resistance. Remember, you’re not supporting your claim yet.			
Does your second body paragraph start with a topic sentence that introduces Malcolm X or Martin Luther King, Jr. and their philosophy on resistance?	YES	IN PROGRESS	NO
Does your second body paragraph have at least two or three details that discuss Malcolm X or Martin Luther King, Jr. and explain their philosophy on resistance?	YES	IN PROGRESS	NO
Is your second body paragraph written in clear and complete sentences that are free of spelling errors and grammatical mistakes?	YES	IN PROGRESS	NO
SUPPORTING PARAGRAPH 1 – This paragraph should support your claim by introducing and explaining evidence from the documents. Remember to cite the document by stating its title or referencing the doc number: (Document 1)			
Does your first supporting paragraph start with topic sentence that introduces a reason why your claim (thesis) is correct?	YES	IN PROGRESS	NO
Does your first supporting paragraph include at least one quote or piece of evidence from the documents that supports your claim?	YES	IN PROGRESS	NO
Does your first supporting paragraph include analysis of the evidence that explains how the evidence supports your claim?	YES	IN PROGRESS	NO
Is your first supporting paragraph written in clear and complete sentences that are free of spelling errors and grammatical mistakes?	YES	IN PROGRESS	NO

DOES YOUR ESSAY CONTAIN THE FOLLOWING ELEMENTS?	YES	IN PROGRESS	NO
SUPPORTING PARAGRAPH 2 – This paragraph should support your claim by introducing and explaining <u>more</u> evidence from the docs. Remember to cite the document by stating its title or referencing the doc number: (Document 1)			
Does your second supporting paragraph start with topic sentence that introduces another reason why your claim (thesis) is correct?	YES	IN PROGRESS	NO
Does your second supporting paragraph include at least one quote or piece of evidence from the documents that supports your claim?	YES	IN PROGRESS	NO
Does your second supporting paragraph include analysis of the evidence that explains how the evidence supports your claim?	YES	IN PROGRESS	NO
Is your second supporting paragraph written in clear and complete sentences that are free of spelling errors and grammatical mistakes?	YES	IN PROGRESS	NO
COUNTERCLAIM – This paragraph should introduce and explain a counterclaim (a viewpoint that opposes your claim). Explanation of the counterclaim should be supported with evidence from the text.			
Does your counterclaim paragraph start with a topic sentence that introduces a counterclaim that opposes your claim?	YES	IN PROGRESS	NO
Does your counterclaim paragraph include at least one quote or piece of evidence from the documents that supports the counterclaim?	YES	IN PROGRESS	NO
Does your counterclaim paragraph include analysis of the evidence that explains how the evidence supports the counterclaim?	YES	IN PROGRESS	NO
Is your counterclaim paragraph written in clear and complete sentences that are free of spelling errors and grammatical mistakes?	YES	IN PROGRESS	NO
REFUTATION – This paragraph should refute (disprove) the counterclaim by introducing even more evidence that supports your claim. Try to include evidence that directly responds to the ideas presented in the counterclaim.			
Does your refutation paragraph start with topic sentence that introduces why the counterclaim is not correct?	YES	IN PROGRESS	NO
Does your refutation paragraph include at least one quote or piece of evidence from the documents that supports your claim and helps refute (disprove) the counterclaim?	YES	IN PROGRESS	NO
Does your refutation paragraph include analysis of the evidence that explains how the evidence supports your claim <i>and</i> refutes the counterclaim?	YES	IN PROGRESS	NO
Is your refutation paragraph written in clear and complete sentences that are free of spelling errors and grammatical mistakes?	YES	IN PROGRESS	NO
CONCLUSION – This paragraph should conclude your essay by briefly recapping your claim and the argument you made throughout your paper. You should end your conclusion with a strong statement that drives your point home.			
Does your conclusion paragraph start with a topic sentence that introduces your conclusion and recaps your claim?	YES	IN PROGRESS	NO
Does your conclusion paragraph briefly summarize the argument you made in your essay and highlight key points?	YES	IN PROGRESS	NO
Does your conclusion paragraph end with a strong statement that drives home the point you made in your essay?	YES	IN PROGRESS	NO
Is your conclusion paragraph written in clear and complete sentences that are free of spelling errors and grammatical mistakes?	YES	IN PROGRESS	NO