

To Kill a Mockingbird

Final Essay

Editing Checklist

Introductory Paragraph:

- ___ Attention Getter/Lead to draw your reader into the paper.
- ___ Give some background information about the novel.
- ___ Preview what is going to be discussed.
- ___ Thesis is the last sentence of the paragraph.
- ___ 3-4 sentences

Checklist for Body Paragraphs:

Body Paragraph #1

- ___ Topic Sentence that directly supports the thesis statement. (Topic should be the first mentioned in thesis.)
- ___ Quote that proves the the topic sentence. Quotation marks are present. Author's last name and page number are in parenthesis. ex) "You never really understand a person until you . . . climb into his skin and walk around in it" (Lee 30).
- ___ Explanation of the quote and why this proves the topic sentence.
- ___ Any further mention of examples in the book that would be needed to explain the topic.
- ___ So What Question: What can we learn from this paragraph? Don't use "you" or "I".
- ___ 8-10 Sentences, not including quote.

Body Paragraph #2

- ___ Topic Sentence that directly supports the thesis statement. (Topic should be the second mentioned in thesis.)
- ___ Quote that proves the the topic sentence. Quotation marks are present. Author's last name and page number are in parenthesis. ex) "You never really understand a person until you . . . climb into his skin and walk around in it" (Lee 30).
- ___ Explanation of the quote and why this proves the topic sentence.
- ___ Any further mention of examples in the book that would be needed to explain the topic.
- ___ So What Question: What can we learn from this paragraph? Don't use "you" or "I".
- ___ 8-10 Sentences, not including quote.

Body Paragraph #3

- ___ Topic Sentence that directly supports the thesis statement. (Topic should be the third mentioned in thesis.)
- ___ Quote that proves the the topic sentence. Quotation marks are present. Author's last name and page number are in parenthesis. ex) "You never really understand a person until you . . . climb into his skin and walk around in it" (Lee 30).
- ___ Explanation of the quote and why this proves the topic sentence.
- ___ Any further mention of examples in the book that would be needed to explain the topic.
- ___ So What Question: What can we learn from this paragraph? Don't use "you" or "I".
- ___ 8-10 Sentences, not including quote.

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Checklist for Conclusion:

- ___ Paraphrased thesis (This should not be the same words as the original thesis.)
- ___ Summary of the points you talked about in the paper.
- ___ Overall So What? What can we take from this paper. What new ideas did you present? What can we learn from looking at the book from your perspective? How should our thinking change?
- ___ 4-5 Sentences

Overall Checklist:

- ___ Did I ever use "I", "you", "me", "we"? If so, change it!
- ___ Did I use at least four quotes throughout my paper?
- ___ Did I correctly cite the quotes? (ex. (Lee 40))
- ___ Did I double check my spelling and punctuation in every sentence? Watch specifically for correct comma placement/punctuation.

If you follow this checklist, you WILL do well on your paper! This is EXACTLY what I am looking for when I am grading your paper!