

TITLE _____ CONFERENCER _____

AUTHOR _____ DATE _____

- 1. Does the essay have a good title?
- 2. Does the essay have three paragraphs (indented, if revising for final draft)?

- 3. Is the **introductory paragraph** five sentences or more? Does it have a good **topic sentence**, or **“hook,”** to get the reader interested? Does it develop (using stories, statistics, questions, etc.) toward a strong, relevant **thesis**?
- 4. Does the **introductory paragraph** end with a strong and relevant **THESIS**?
- 5. What is it?

- 6. Does the first **body paragraph** have a good topic sentence that transitions from the **introductory paragraph**?
- 7. Does each **body paragraph** have three **CONCRETE DETAILS** (quotes or examples from real life)?
- 8. List them.
 - A.
 - B.
 - C.
 - D.
 - E.
 - F.
 - G.
 - H.
 - I.

- 9. How well would you say the **CONCRETE DETAILS** support the **THESIS** of the essay?
 - a. VERY WELL
 - b. PRETTY WELL
 - c. NOT WELL
 - d. NOT AT ALL

10. Does the **body paragraph** have two sentences of **COMMENTARY** for each of its **CONCRETE DETAILS**?

11. How well would you say the **COMMENTARY** explains each **CONCRETE DETAIL**?

A. **CONCRETE DETAIL** Number One – **COMMENTARY** explains it

a. **VERY WELL** b. **PRETTY WELL** c. **NOT WELL** d. **NOT AT ALL**

B. **CONCRETE DETAIL** Number Two – **COMMENTARY** explains it

a. **VERY WELL** b. **PRETTY WELL** c. **NOT WELL** d. **NOT AT ALL**

C. **CONCRETE DETAIL** Number Three – **COMMENTARY** explains it

a. **VERY WELL** b. **PRETTY WELL** c. **NOT WELL** d. **NOT AT ALL**

12. Does each **body paragraph** have an interesting and appropriate **CONCLUSION**?

13. Does the **concluding paragraph** have a first (topic) sentence that transitions from the **body paragraph**?

14. Does the **concluding paragraph** remind the reader of the evidence presented in the **body paragraph**?

15. Does the **concluding paragraph** address (deal with) potential counterclaims?

16. Does the **concluding paragraph** reinforce (strengthen or support) the writer's original thesis?

17. Does the essay utilize appropriate transitions?

18. Does the essay have perfect mechanics (spelling, punctuation, etc.)? If not, what changes are needed?

19. Overall, is the essay persuasive? Does it put together argument and evidence in a way that leaves you with the impression that the writer has made her/his point?

What could the writer do to make the essay more persuasive, more convincing, more powerful and compelling?

20. What is the best thing about the paragraph?

21. What is the thing about the paragraph that needs the most work?

Look back at your specific comments on the three paragraphs for guidance.

22. What else can you say about the paragraph that might help the author improve it? In other words, what would you suggest the writer do in order to turn this draft into a strong **FINAL DRAFT**?

mechanics : spelling, grammar, punctuation, correct word usage (their, there, they're, for example)

transition : a word or phrase that connects one idea or topic to the next