

TITLE _____ CONFERENCER _____

AUTHOR _____ DATE _____

1. Does the essay have a good title?
2. Does the essay have five 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 the **first body paragraph** have three **CONCRETE DETAILS** (embedded quotes with citations)?

8. List them.

A.

B.

C.

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

10. Which of the three **CONCRETE DETAILS** is the strongest? Why?

11. Which of the **CONCRETE DETAILS** is the weakest? Why?

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

13. 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

14. Does the **first body paragraph** have an interesting and appropriate **CONCLUSION**?

15. Does the **second body paragraph** have a good topic sentence that transitions from the **first body paragraph**?

16. Does the **second body paragraph** have three **CONCRETE DETAILS** (embedded quotes with citations)?

17. List them.

D.

E.

F

18. How well would you say the **CONCRETE DETAILS** support the **THESIS** of the essay and of the **second body paragraph**? a. VERY WELL b. PRETTY WELL c. NOT WELL d. NOT AT ALL

19. Which of the three **CONCRETE DETAILS** is the strongest? Why?

20. Which of the **CONCRETE DETAILS** is the weakest? Why?

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

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

D. CONCRETE DETAIL Number One --- COMMENTARY explains it

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

E. CONCRETE DETAIL Number Two --- COMMENTARY explains it

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

F. CONCRETE DETAIL Number Three --- COMMENTARY explains it

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

23. Does the *second body paragraph* have an interesting and appropriate CONCLUSION?

24. Does the *third body paragraph* have a good topic sentence that transitions from the second *second body paragraph*?

25. Does the *third body paragraph* have three CONCRETE DETAILS (embedded quotes with citations)?

26. List them.

G.

H.

I.

27. How well would you say the CONCRETE DETAILS support the THESIS of the essay and of the *third body paragraph* ? a. VERY WELL b. PRETTY WELL c. NOT WELL d. NOT AT ALL

28. Which of the three CONCRETE DETAILS is the strongest? Why?

29. Which of the CONCRETE DETAILS is the weakest? Why?

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

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

G. CONCRETE DETAIL Number One --- **COMMENTARY explains it**

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

H. CONCRETE DETAIL Number Two --- **COMMENTARY explains it**

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

I. CONCRETE DETAIL Number Three --- **COMMENTARY explains it**

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

32. Does the **third body paragraph** have an interesting and appropriate CONCLUSION?

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

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

35. Does the **concluding paragraph** address (deal with) potential counterclaims and reader questions?

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

37. Does the essay utilize appropriate transitions?

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

39. 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?

40. What is the best thing about the paragraph?

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

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

42. 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