

Checklist for whole – essay revision

Purpose

What is the essay's purpose? Does that purpose conform to the assignment?

Thesis

What is the thesis of the essay? Where does it become clear? How well does the paper deliver on the commitment of the thesis?

Structure

What are the main points supporting the thesis? (List them.) How does the arrangement of these points contribute to the paper's purpose?

Development

How well do details, examples, and other evidence support each main point? Where, if at all, might readers find support skimpy or have trouble understanding the content?

Tone

How appropriate is the paper's tone for the purpose, topic, and intended readers? Where is it most and least successful?

Unity

Which, if any, sentences or paragraphs do not contribute to the thesis? Should these digressions be cut, or can they be rewritten to support the thesis?

Coherence

How clearly and smoothly does the paper flow? Where does it seem rough or awkward? Can any transitions be improved?

Title, introduction, conclusion

Does the title reflect the essay's content and purpose? Is it interesting? How well does the introduction engage and focus readers' attention on the thesis of the essay? How effective is the conclusion in providing a sense of completion?