**Instructions:** As you reread your essay, use this checklist as a guide to evaluate your writing.

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  | NO | COULD BE IMPROVED | YES! |
| FOCUS/PURPOSE | I stated my opinion clearly. |  |  |  |
| I stayed focused on my opinion throughout the essay without going off topic. |  |  |  |
| CONTENT & DEVELOPMENT | I included at least three reasons for my opinion. |  |  |  |
| I included three or four details about each of my reasons. Details include facts, statistics, examples, or personal experiences. |  |  |  |
| ORGANIZATION | I have a clear introduction that includes a hook, information about the topic, and my opinion. |  |  |  |
| I have at least three body paragraphs. Each body paragraph is about a new reason |  |  |  |
| I have a strong conclusion where I restate my opinion and tell readers what action they should take next. |  |  |  |
| I use transitions between paragraphs to show how they are connected. |  |  |  |
| I use transitions between ideas in each of my paragraphs. |  |  |  |
| LANGUAGE USE & STYLE | I vary the lengths of my sentences so that I have both long and short sentences. |  |  |  |
| I use powerful persuasive words from the word bank to show that I care about the topic and want my reader to take action. |  |  |  |
| GRAMMAR & CONVENTIONS | I have read my essay to myself so that I can hear my mistakes and correct them. I made my reader SMILE by checking:  **Sentences**: Each sentence has a subject and a verb (an action).  **Marks**: End each sentence with a **punctuation mark**.  **Indents**: Indent when you begin a new paragraph.  **Letters**: Start each sentence with a **capital letter**. |  |  |  |