

Grades 8-11 Writing Checklist

Idea Development:

- _____ I have responded to the topic in the prompt.
- _____ My response contains a clear thesis or central idea.
- _____ My details and examples are descriptive, specific, and relevant.

Organization:

- _____ My paper has an introduction, body, and conclusion.
- _____ I use topic sentences and transitions between and within paragraphs.
- _____ I have effectively organized and sequenced similar ideas.
- _____ I use paragraphing and indentation correctly.
- _____ I use varied sentences that are interesting, complete, and correct.

Voice:

- _____ My voice in this paper is appropriate for the purpose and intended audience.
- _____ I use a variety of words and phrases that are precise, descriptive, and original.
- _____ I use words and phrases correctly and I avoid repetition.

Conventions:

- _____ I spell most words correctly.
- _____ I use capitalization and punctuation correctly.
- _____ The grammar and usage are correct in my paper.