

# 2011 Expository Writing: Checklist, Grades 5-12

Refer to this checklist when writing and revising your practice essays.  
This checklist may not be used during the writing assignment session.  
This is a checklist for a five paragraph essay.

## Did you...

### Show your understanding of the writing assignment?

- Write an essay that **explains** about a topic?
- Write at least **five** paragraphs to include an introduction and conclusion paragraph?
- Write about the topic of the **writing assignment**?

### Show the organization of the introduction paragraph?

- Begin your introduction paragraph with a hook sentence to interest the reader about the topic?
- Indent the first sentence of your paragraph?
- Write a thesis statement sentence about the topic of the essay?
- Write a sentence giving the three main ideas you plan to present about your topic?

### Show the organization of body paragraph #1?

- Write one main idea sentence in support of your topic sentence?
- Indent the first sentence of your paragraph?
- Write two detail (example or explanation) sentences about the main idea?
- Show appropriate use of precise and interesting transition words?

### Show the organization of body paragraph #2?

- Write one main idea sentence in support of your topic sentence?
- Indent the first sentence of your paragraph?
- Write two detail (example or explanation) sentences about the main idea?
- Show appropriate use of precise and interesting transition words?

### Show the organization of body paragraph #3?

- Write one main idea sentence in support of your topic sentence?
- Indent the first sentence of your paragraph?
- Write two detail (example or explanation) sentences about the main idea?
- Show appropriate use of precise and interesting transition words?

### Show the organization of the conclusion paragraph?

- Restate the thesis statement about your topic from your introduction paragraph in another way?
- Indent the first sentence of your paragraph?
- Restate the three main ideas from your introduction paragraph in another way?
- Restate the hook in an interesting “wrap-it-up” concluding sentence?

Vary your sentences?

\_\_\_ Use at least two sentences each of two other sentence types besides subject-verb?

Explain about the topic of the assignment?

\_\_\_ Write a topic sentence consistent with the topic of the writing assignment?

\_\_\_ Write main idea sentences consistent with the topic?

\_\_\_ Write example and explanation sentences consistent with the main ideas?

\_\_\_ Use language that is precise and interesting?

Use correct grammar, punctuation, capitalization, and spelling?

\_\_\_ Use the correct verb tense for each subject?

\_\_\_ Capitalize the first word of each sentence and end each sentence with punctuation?

\_\_\_ Check each word for correct spelling?