

Name: _____

Mrs. Orepitan

English I PreAP/GT, Period ____

Date: _____

Correction and Commendation Guide

The numbers below and the accompanying remarks will replace some comments usually made by the scorer. Use the guide in two ways: first, to note corrections necessary to improve writing generally and this paper particularly; second, note the successes you have had in the writing of the paper and continue to practice these stylistic patterns.

Introduction of Essay

1. Introduction needs to develop the concept you wish to discuss more completely. Give more emphasis to the background of your topic and why it is important.
2. Introduction is strong and illuminating; a good start reflecting organization and interest.
3. Thesis is weak; this critical statement lacks sequenced and related ideas needed to build a clear argument; name characters and concepts you will discuss in the essay. Thesis map should guide your reader through the paper.
4. Thesis works well making an intelligent and interesting argument.

Body Paragraphs

5. Assert a clear idea at the beginning of the paragraph as part of the topic sentence (consider this a body thesis). Make it a sharp and precise statement of the issue you will prove. Do not assert an element of plot, or a fact, as an idea of the topic sentence.
6. Strong topic sentence or body thesis which should help control of paragraph.
7. More examples will help prove this point. Examples are too few to convince the reader of validity of the argument.
8. Examples make a good point for your assertion; nice choices and analysis.
9. Explain how this example makes your point; discuss the example and draw more from it.
10. Examples are well-explained providing good analysis and support.
11. Close a paragraph with an idea that concludes what your topic sentence and examples have proven; do not simply mimic the assertion nor end with your last point. Draw a large idea that is the logical extension of your points made in the body.
12. Effective conclusion to the paragraph.

Essay Conclusion

13. Concluding paragraph is weak and thereby ineffective. Draw a larger idea at the essay's close that grows out of the assertions you have given. Leave the reader with a better opinion of the logic and correctness of your essay.
14. Effective closure; you successfully draw together assertions and examples.
15. Enrich the thematic statement; usually the theme follows the several sentences wrapping up the essay; then move to making an observation about the human condition, ambition, or motivation.
16. Strong thematic observation

Spelling/ Grammar/ Syntax/ Reference

17. Spelling error; use spell check or the computer, a dictionary, or a peer editor
18. Effective word choice (diction)
19. Ineffective and weak word choice (diction)
20. Effective sentence structure (syntax)
21. Revise for sense and logic—idea lost in current phrasing and syntax
22. References to title and author nicely made and subordinated to principal idea
23. Refer to author and title at start of essay
24. Sophisticated, confident, and knowledgeable voice
25. Grammar error. Learn rule **now!**
26. Sophisticated use of grammatical choices
27. Correct the form and placement of heading
28. Effective use of MLA heading (left side of first page—no cover sheet)
29. Sentence fragment; learn to recognize this basic writing error; have a peer editor read paper before submitting; this mistake is a costly error
30. Nice use of the “effective fragment”
31. Use present tense in literature discussion and analysis
32. Effective verb tenses consistently used to help literature live
33. Indefinite reference; this, that, these are used incorrectly when they carry the weight of a large idea. Restate the idea; clarify the connection between indefinite pronoun and the noun it replaces.
34. Clear references that effectively clarify ideas
35. Avoid absolute words: all, every, each, any, anyone. These words suggest naïve thinking and weak logic.
36. Effective use of transitions which help the organic whole
37. Provide a transition between ideas both within a paragraph and when moving to another paragraph.
38. Effective use of quotations; embedded nicely into your own syntax.
39. Ineffective use of quotations. Quotations should be nicely embedded into your own prose.
40. Effective style throughout, pleasant and enjoyable to read. Kudos!