|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **[First Paragraph](http://homeworktips.about.com/od/paperassignments/a/introsentence.htm) and Introduction** | **Yes** | **Needs Work** |
| [Introductory sentence](http://homeworktips.about.com/od/writingabookreport/a/firstsentence.htm) is interesting (your hook/lead) |  |  |
| The thesis sentence is specific. Circle this. |  |  |
| The [thesis statement](http://homeworktips.about.com/od/thesissentence/a/fuss.htm) makes a clear declaration that include three subtopics. |  |  |
| **Body Paragraphs** |  |  |
| Does each paragraph begin with a good [topic sentence](http://grammar.about.com/od/tz/g/topicsenterm.htm) and end with a concluding sentence?  |  |  |
| Do I provide clear evidence that is directly quoted to support my thesis? |  |  |
| Have I used two pieces of evidence with citations per body paragraph? |  |  |
| Do my [paragraphs flow](http://homeworktips.about.com/od/paperassignments/a/revising.htm) in a logical manner? |  |  |
| Have I followed up each direct quote with a “so what” sentence?  |  |  |
| **Paper Format** |  |  |
| Headings, margins, font, and spacing meet MLA format. 12 pt TNR double spaced |  |  |
| [Page numbers](http://homeworktips.about.com/od/computertips/ss/pagenumbers.htm) are in the right location on the page. |  |  |
| The correct information is in each parenthetical citation.  |  |  |
| Every parenthetical citation can be traced to a citation on your Works Cited page. |  |  |
| In-text citations checked for proper formatting (the period belongs after the citation in the parentheses. Include the page number when available. |  |  |
| **Proofreading** |  |  |
| I've checked for [confusing word errors](http://homeworktips.about.com/od/homeworkhelp/a/mixup.htm). |  |  |
| I've checked for use of **transitions** to create logical flow. I’ve added transitions so as to have three traditional transitions per body paragraph. In addition, however, in contrast, likewise, in comparison, as a result, in effect, next, also, furthermore, etc. |  |  |
| I’ve checked for spelling, punctuation, capitalization especially with titles, complete/correct sentences, correct verb and pronoun usage. |  |  |
| **Other items** |  |  |
| Works cited list has four full MLA citations |  |  |
| The list is ordered properly. A-Z |  |  |
| I have “lead into” and “follow up on” all evidence. According to Bill Smith, author of *Why America Dislikes Congress*, “The American people distrust 75% of all politicians” (Smith 62). In other words, most politicians have a serious credibility issue. |  |  |
| I've included the required variety of source types. |  |  |