

The Peace of Wild Things Student Essay Check List

Directions: You may use this check list as you revise and edit your reflective essay draft.

Introduction

1. Do you open your introduction with an effective hook?
2. Do you transition or bridge smoothly from your hook sentence (s) to your thesis statement?
3. Do you respond directly to the writing prompt in a clear, complete thesis statement?
4. Is your thesis statement precise, limited, unified, and valuable?

Body Paragraphs

1. Do you open each body paragraph with a clear topic sentence that is logically related to your thesis idea?
2. Do you use strong evidence—both text and personal—to support each topic sentence?
3. Do you explain, or justify, how each piece of evidence supports or “proves” what you said in your topic sentence?
4. Do you effectively transition to the next paragraph?
5. Have you included at least 2 body paragraphs that use text evidence AND 1 paragraph that uses personal experience to support your thesis statement?

Conclusion

1. Do you open your conclusion by restating your thesis statement?
2. Do you offer your reader some valuable, final things for your readers to think about and/or to do?

Language

1. Have you proofread to correct errors in punctuation, spelling, capitalization, usage, sentence structure, and grammar?
2. Have you consciously used transitions to move smoothly and effectively within and between your paragraphs?
3. Have you consciously used the relevant domain-specific words (words used to discuss poetry, in particular) we have used throughout the unit?