

Professor Puder

Assessment Questions

HCCS – Campuses



Use these assessment questions as a guide for your In-Class Analysis Question.

Thinking and Structuring Ideas

1. Does my essay **focus on the assignment question**, with **laser focus** to what it is asking of me?
2. Does my essay use **prewriting and outlining** to give me a better picture of my essay's **structure**?
3. Does my essay **experiment with multiple thesis statements** to **see my essay in new ways?**

Drafting the Essay

4. Did I give myself adequate time to draft my essay?
 - Time
 - 1-2 hours uninterrupted
 - Location
 - Ideal Setting for you
 - Multiple Attempts
 - Several drafts

Typing the Essay

5. Is my essay double-spaced?
6. Does my essay use correct MLA (Modern Language Association) Heading:
 - o Name
 - o Professor's Name
 - o Name of Course and CRN #
 - o Date – Regular or Military
7. Does my title capture the reader's attention?
8. Are all my paragraphs indented?
9. Does my essay include a Work or Works Cited page at the end of the essay on a separate page?
10. Does my introduction capture the reader's attention with the following methods of development like:
 - o Intriguing biography
 - o fascinating question or questions
 - o thought provoking quote or quotes
 - o referring to something I read
 - o engaging narration or description
 - o illustrating an unusual definition
 - o startling fact
 - o clever comparison or contrast, etc.
 - As well as identification of author, title of work to be analyzed, and publication facts.
 - Along with plot summary
11. Does my thesis statement give my essay's direction and answer the assignment question? If not, why?
12. Have I made sure to use third person point of view?
 - o Did I do this by referring to readers and or audience not I, me, my, we, or us?
13. Have I referred to the author by last name, first and last name, or title and last name not by first name only? I don't personally know the author.

Commented [n1]: www.brainyquote.com has terrific quotation idea.

Content/Development (Body Paragraphs)

14. Is the body of my paper organized with the most effective strategy like compare or contrast, chronological, emphatic, logical, etc.? Did I succeed with my chosen method? If not, what changes are needed?
15. Are body paragraphs unified and coherent?
 - On topic
 - Topic sentences
 - Arrange details and examples
 - Repeat key phrases
 - Pronoun usage
 - Concluding sentences
 - Transitional sentences
16. Is there enough content to support the thesis statement sentence? If not, where can I make changes?
17. Does the paper contain a well-developed conclusion? If not, what changes can be made.

Use of Sources

18. Examine your use of citations (summary, exact, paraphrase). Did you use them well to support your thesis statement? If not, what changes can be made.
19. Are quotes (exact or paraphrased) introduced effectively? If not, where are problems? How can the problems be fixed?
20. Are quotes (exact or paraphrased) followed with correct parenthetical citations? If not, where are the mistakes? How can they be fixed?
21. Is the Work or Works Cited page correct? If not, what is wrong with it? How can it be fixed?

Style and Mechanics

22. Is the style (sentences, diction, tone) appropriate for the assignment? If not, where should changes be made?

23. Do you detect any errors in grammar, punctuation, or mechanics?

- Grammar
 - Fragment
 - Run-on
 - Comma-Splice
 - Agreement
 - Subject-Verb
 - Pronoun
 - Verb Tense
- Mechanics
 - Spelling
 - Punctuation
 - Capitalization
- Recheck
 - Heading
 - Work Cited

Overall Impression

24. List three perceived strengths and weaknesses about the paper?

25. Is this paper ready to be submitted to Canvas?

Small Problems That Hurt The Essay



- ✓ Refer to the author as Mr. or Ms. and last name or last name only. Do not refer to the author by first name. That address is too familiar.
- ✓ Refer to the essay/story/article with present tense verbs. The author may have passed on, but the literature/content is still alive.
- ✓ Spell out contractions for formal/academic essays.
- ✓ Use third person pronouns and point of view. No first person (I, me, my) or second person (we, you, us). To fix second person

(we, you) problems, use third person reader/readers or audience so a he/they or it third person pronoun reference can be set up.

- ✓ Repeat key term from the thesis points as anchor words in the body paragraphs.

- ✓ Documentation

- " _____ "(12). – One author documentation throughout papers.

" _____ " (Hughes 29). – Two author

Deeper Problems

Grammar – Punctuation – Spelling - Commas

- Commas –

- Coordination

- I was less than fifteen years **old, and** my parents wanted to give me something special for being one of the best students in my class.
 - I am not saying that being called young is a bad **thing, but** I do get frustrated when people compare me to my brother.

- Subordination

- **When it was our turn, one** of the officers called my Mom and started asking **questions because** she was not getting completely what the officer was saying.

- Punctuation – Documentation

- Within the Essay

- " **worked gnarled . . . _____** "(10).

- Verb Tense

- He seen me – he saw me
 - Was approaching – approached
 - Do - did

- Fragments

- An incomplete thought

- Comma-Splices

Commented [n2]: When writing a Narrative-Descriptive story.

- Two sentences run together with a comma, and the comma isn't strong enough.
- Everything went wrong this morning, I was late.
- Run-ons
 - Two sentences run together without any punctuation at all.
 - My daughter found a Megastore DMV she was impressed with their service.
- Agreement – Subject-Verb
 - My friends and I is – **are** ready to leave for the movie.
 - It happen – **happens** every Thursday at 9:00 p.m.
 - He seem – **seems** nice.
 - They seems – **seem** harmless.
- Agreement – Pronoun
 - When Jake left class they **he** left they **his** wallet.
 - Everybody wants them – **him** to leave
- Parallel Structure
 - I need to **pick up dry cleaning, buy a new textbook, return my late library book, and study for a test.**
- Spelling
- Capitalization

Commented [n3]: Fix these kinds of errors with:

- 1.Period between two sentences.
- 2.Semicolon between two sentences.
3. Semicolon conjunctive adverb and comma.
- 4.Comma and coordinating conjunction.
- 5.Subordinating conjunction to make one clause dependent.