**Thesis Writing Assessment**

* The following is a writing guide to help you decide if you did a good job with a particular area or if you need to do more work in a particular area.
* Read the questions and circle your answers, then add up the points. The more points you have, the better your thesis is.
* This is NOT for GRADING your thesis; it is only to CHECK that your thesis has gone through the required process and that you have all the required pieces. USE THIS SHEET!!!

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  | ***0*** | ***1*** | ***2*** |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **1** | Did you understand what you needed to do to write your paper? |  | No | A little | Yes |
| **2** | Did you do prewriting before you wrote your paper? |  | No | A little | Yes |
| **3** | Did you have a clear (a) and (b)? |  | No | So-so | Yes |
| **4** | Did you write your main idea sentence and your topic sentences **BEFORE** you started writing your paper? |  | No |  | Yes |
| **5** | Look at your paper now. Find your main idea sentence and topic sentences. Do you have them? |  | No |  | Yes |
| **6** | Are your main idea sentence and topic sentences in the correct place in your paper? |  | No |  | Yes |
| **7** | Do your topic sentences support your main idea sentence? |  | No | So-so | Yes |
| **8** | Do you have enough paragraphs (more than 5)? |  | No |  | Yes |
| **9** | Do all paragraphs have more than 1 sentence? |  | No |  | Yes |
| **10** | Do you have an introductory paragraph(s)? |  | No |  | Yes |
| **11** | Do you have a concluding paragraph(s)? |  | No |  | Yes |
| **12** | Do you stay focused on your main idea in your body paragraphs (i.e., do your body paragraphs give examples or reasons for the WHY or HOW in your original (b) question)? |  | No | So-so | Yes |
| **13** | Did you use “I” in your paper (in the introduction or in the body)? |  | No |  | Yes |
| **14** | Look at the TEMPLATE for the paper. Did you follow it? Does your paper look like the TEMPLATE? Does it have all of the pieces found in the TEMPLATE (header, footer, word count, etc.)? |  | No | A little | Yes |
| **15** | Did you write a title for your paper? |  | No |  | Yes |
| **16** | Did you capitalize your title properly? |  | No |  | Yes |
| **17** | Is your title written without punctuation? |  | No |  | Yes |
| **18** | Does your title give the reader a hint or idea about the topic of the paper? |  | No |  | Yes |

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **19** | Did you use the same font and the same font size for the whole paper (except for the title or for the reference list)? |  | No |  | Yes |
| **20** | Do you have a reference list at the end of the paper? |  | No |  | Yes |
| **21** | Does the reference list look like the examples your instructor gave you? |  | No |  | Yes |
| **22** | Do you have references from books or journals? |  | No | A few | Many |
| **23** | Did you cite your references in your paper? |  | No | A little | Yes |
| **24** | Did you cite correctly? |  | No |  | Yes |
| **25** | Did you take good notes from your references? |  | No | A little | Yes |
| **26** | Was your paper long enough? |  | No |  | Yes |
| **27** | Did you proofread your paper? |  | No |  | Yes |
| **28** | Did you talk to your instructor if you had problems, questions, or needed help? |  | No |  | Yes |
| **29** | Did you turn in your paper on time (the last day of class)? |  | No |  | Yes |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | **----- DOUBLE POINT QUESTION -----** |  |  |  |  |
| **30** | DID YOU MAKE EFFORTS TO WRITE A GOOD PAPER? |  | No | A little | Yes |

FINAL SCORE: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Remember:**

* You are writing an ACADEMIC thesis. Academic writing is different from other types of writing. It requires time, effort, and the use of a special style.
* The thesis is the most important work you will do in this seminar. Do not take a casual attitude toward it. DON’T WAIT TO WRITE.
* Your instructor has done much work to help you (i.e., he has made many sheets to help you, to guide you, and to teach you). USE THESE SHEETS.
* Do not expect your first paper (or your first draft) to be perfect. Your goal is to make the paper better and better and better. **Effort in = results out!**

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