

FINAL RESEARCH PAPER CHECKLIST

As we work our way through the construction of our Research Papers, we have some benchmarks and goals to meet that this checklist is meant to help you keep track of what you need to have:

	Do you have a title for your paper?
	Do you have an introduction paragraph that ends with your thesis statement?
	Is your thesis statement clear, direct in stating what is being argued for and about?
	Does your thesis provide clear reasons to support your argument/claim?
	After your thesis, does your next paragraph start off by laying down some background information?
	Does your background paragraphs contain at least 1 paragraph where you summarize the graphic novel?
	Does your background information organizationally make sense and give your audience needed information like definitions, key terms, and general information for following your argument?
	Do you have at least 2-3 paragraphs for your background section paragraphs

	Did you have 3 or more major points to discuss and elaborate on to support your thesis statement?
	For each major point of your argument, did you write several paragraphs discussing and laying out your case?
	Did you incorporate outside sources, including your graphic novel and other sources, to support your argument/thesis?
	Did you properly integrate and introduce those outside sources that were not your own words?
	Did you properly frame, elaborate and explain the sources you used and connect them back to the thesis and argument you are making?

	Do you have a clear transition sentence as the topic sentence to begin your Counter-Argument where you made it very clear to your audience that you are shifting gears?
	Is this section shorter than your argument section?
	Does this section get you to roughly page 8 or 9?
	Is this section roughly 1 ½ to 2 pages in length?
	Did you name potential naysayers, counter-arguments, or pose questions that challenge your argument?
	Did you have several potential challenges?
	Did you try to answer those potential naysayers, counter-arguments, and questions in a way that helps re-assert and promote your argument as the stronger position?

	Does your conclusion wrap things up, returning to your main point of your thesis and discussing any implications of it all?
	Does your Works Cited begin at the top of a fresh page?
	Are your sources listed in alphabetical order?
	Are your sources properly formatted according to MLA 8 th edition guidelines?
	Are all sources double-spaced and ALL lines AFTER the first indented away from the left margin?

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