

ESSAY 02 • FINAL-EDIT CHECKLIST

COMPARE

- focuses on comparison, occasionally concedes differences

ORGANIZATION – answers “so what?”

Introduction

- two or three brief, clear and specific sentences

NO vague generalities!

- final sentence of intro has a thesis statement that shows importance of argument

NOT *telling* how important the topic is (closed question, value judgment: “very”),

Instead DO *show* how the topic is important (open question, explanation)

NOT description “we will discuss these texts,” “some are similar, some are different”

Instead DO answer/solve the how/why question (“because”)

Body

- three or four** paragraphs of a few brief, clear and specific sentences

- each paragraph has ONE point (sub-thesis) that supports the main argument (thesis)

NOT *retelling* the narrative but *showing* how the paragraph topic is important

- organization by TOPIC (sub-thesis), not by author/text

REFERENCES—answers “says who?”

- around **8-10** citations, very few *short* quotations

NO long block quotes

- citations drawn from a range of sources

NOT just one or two adjacent lines

LENGTH

- meets word limit (**750** +/-20)

NB citations in parentheses should not count toward total