**Essay Checklist (Nonfiction)**

1. **Use the MLA format for your heading and page numbers.**
2. **Introduction: Should be at least four sentences.** ☐

* Title of book or text ☐
* Put the titles of articles in quotation marks and underline the titles of books. ☐
* Author of book or text ☐ (when available)
* Write your CLAIM. Restate the question using **KEYS WORDS** ☐

1. **Paragraph #2:**

* CITE EVIDENCE ☐
* Topic Sentence: (What is this paragraph about? USE KEY WORDS!)
* Quote with page number or paragraph number. Use MLA format. ☐
* Use only ONE quote. The quote should only be one sentence long. ☐
* MLA format (author’s last name PAGE NUMBER)☐
* MLA format:

According to the author, “Just the weight of one person stepping on just the right spot on a slope of snow can cause the slab of snow to start sliding” (Jones 17). ☐

* Explain the EVIDENCE/QUOTE **using at least three sentences**. ☐
* Vocabulary words from the TEXT (2) ☐ ☐
* Transition words or writing prompts ☐
* (What does the author MEAN?) ☐
* (Why does it MATTER?) ☐
* **Paragraph #3:** CITE EVIDENCE ☐
* Topic Sentence: (What is this paragraph about? USE KEY WORDS!)
* Quote with page number or paragraph number. Use MLA format. ☐
* Use only ONE quote. The quote should only be one sentence long. ☐
* MLA format (author’s last name PAGE NUMBER)☐
* MLA format:

According to the author, “Just the weight of one person stepping on just the right spot on a slope of snow can cause the slab of snow to start sliding” (Jones 17). ☐

* Explain the EVIDENCE/QUOTE **using at least three sentences**. ☐
* Vocabulary words from the TEXT (2) ☐ ☐
* Transition words or writing prompts ☐
* (What does the author MEAN?) ☐
* (Why does it MATTER?) ☐
* **Paragraph #4:** CITE EVIDENCE ☐
* Topic Sentence: (What is this paragraph about? USE KEY WORDS!)
* Quote with page number or paragraph number. Use MLA format. ☐
* Use only ONE quote. The quote should only be one sentence long. ☐
* MLA format (author’s last name PAGE NUMBER)☐
* MLA format:

According to the author, “Just the weight of one person stepping on just the right spot on a slope of snow can cause the slab of snow to start sliding” (Jones 17). ☐

* Explain the EVIDENCE/QUOTE **using at least three sentences**. ☐
* Vocabulary words from the TEXT (2) ☐ ☐
* Transition words or writing prompts ☐
* (What does the author MEAN?) ☐
* (Why does it MATTER?) ☐

1. **Conclusion:**

* Restate the claim. ☐
* Explain the importance of the claim. ☐
* Make connections to each paragraph. List each of the important points and pieces of evidence that you made at the beginning of each paragraph in your topic sentence. ☐
* Summarize. ☐