

Name: _____

Essay Checklist (Nonfiction)

- I. Use the MLA format for your heading and page numbers.
- II. 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**
- III. 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)
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- **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?)

IV. **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.