

## Revision Checklist

*This checklist is based upon suggestions for writing argumentative papers in “How to Write an Argument: What Students and Teachers Really Need to Know” by Gerald Graff, Language Awareness, pg. 124-126.*

*First, number the paragraphs of your essay. Then write responses on a separate sheet of paper and submit with your second draft of Essay #2.*

1. What is the conversation you are joining? What is the issue being debated/discussed? What are the different sides a person might take in this debate?
2. What is your central claim (i.e. what is your argument)? Underline it in your essay and then write it down.
3. Do you remind your reader what your central claim is in the body paragraphs of your essay? Which paragraphs might benefit from an additional sentence or two that explains how the examples/quotes/reasons you are providing relate to your central claim?
4. Summarize one objection (counter-argument) that someone might make to your argument. In other words, if someone disagreed with your central claim, what reasons might they give for disagreeing?
5. Who cares about your topic? Why is it important? Do you state this somewhere in your paper? If not, where can you add this information?
6. Make a “reverse outline” of your paper. For each paragraph, write a sentence explaining what you were trying to do in that paragraph. As you read, underline any sentences that you think do not belong in your paragraph.
7. Are there any parts of your essay that you think DO NOT support your central claim/relate to your argument? Do you think you wander off-topic at any point in your essay? Put a ? by any sentences that seem to wander.
8. Summarize your central claim in a way that your parents could understand (even if that means you don’t write it in English).
9. Could your parents understand your argument? Why or why not? Would your parents agree with your argument? Why or why not?