

GLOBAL ISSUES:

1. Read directions.
2. Manage your time.
3. Use the writing process. No more hastily written drafts.
4. Meet the required word count.
5. Include MLA Works Cited entries when needed.
6. Include Word Count at the end of the essay.

LOCAL ISSUES:

1. Integrate your quotes. Transition phrases before and after quotations.
2. Proofread out loud before you turn in your essay.
3. Use the Spelling & Grammar check button.
4. Capitalize proper nouns.
5. Provide a creative title.
6. Periods for abbreviations and acronyms.
7. There, their, and they're. Learn the difference, break the habit.
8. Its and it's. Learn the difference, break the habit.
9. LIMIT your reliance on first person pronouns.
10. LIMIT your use of the verb "to be" and "being". These are weak verbs.
11. LIMIT your use of the verb "to get" and "got" and "getting". These are weak.
12. LIMIT your use of the passive "had" + verb. Break the habit.
13. LIMIT your use of "nowadays"
14. "A lot" is two words. There is no such word as "alot."
15. DO NOT simply copy and paste links instead of working on the Works Cited page.
16. Authors and historical figures are referred to by LAST NAME ONLY.
17. "Through" not "thru," "He's" not "his," "These" not "this."
18. Watch out for Spanish habits (i.e. unnecessary articles like "the" and "of/from"-"de").
19. "Disappoint" and "Beginning". Spell them right.
20. Do not write out a year/date. Write the numerical year.