**Life After High School Student Checklist**

**YES NO**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Content:** |  |  |
| **Introduction:** |  |  |
| Did you introduce your topic clearly? |  |  |
| Did you use an appropriate attention-getting strategy? |  |  |
| **Body Paragraphs:** |  |  |
| Does each body paragraph have an appropriate sub-topic? |  |  |
| Do you have sufficient and appropriate specific details to support the sub-topic? |  |  |
| Does your concluding sentence relate to the topic sentence of the paragraph? |  |  |
| **Conclusion:** |  |  |
| Did you avoid summarization? |  |  |
| Did you make a final dramatic point? |  |  |
| **Style:** |  |  |
| Did you use an active voice, avoiding “be” verbs? |  |  |
| Did you use appropriate transitions? |  |  |
| Did you use vivid, sensory details? |  |  |
| Did you vary your sentence lengths and structures? |  |  |
| Did you employ an appropriate formal writing style? |  |  |
| Did you use proper MLA format? |  |  |
| Does your essay sound “natural”? Does it have good energy? |  |  |
| **Mechanics:** |  |  |
| Did you carefully read your essay for errors in spelling and punctuation? |  |  |
| Did you check for subject-verb agreement? |  |  |
| Is your verb tense consistent? |  |  |
| **Finally:** |  |  |
| Does your essay meet the word count criteria? |  |  |
| Did you read your essay aloud to an audience? |  |  |
| Did you connect your essay to the college of your choice? |  |  |
| Did you word process your essay in Times New Roman, 12 font, double-spaced? |  |  |
| Is this an essay only YOU could have written? |  |  |