When editing research essays – look for the following:

**Essay Format**

* Does the essay contain a motivator, clear thesis and clear blueprint
  + - Parallel structure?
    - Author and text name?
* Does each body paragraph contain
  + - Start with a transition
    - a topic sentence (linked back to the thesis/ blueprint)
    - arguments that prove thesis
    - adequate support
    - transitional words or phrases – moving from point to point
* Concluding paragraph
  + - Restated thesis and blueprint
    - clincher

**Quotes**

* Primary quotations (4-8)
  + - Are the quotes integrated smoothly into sentence?
* Secondary quotation (4-6)
  + - Are the quotes integrated smoothly into sentence?
    - Do the quotes come from an academic website or book?
* MLA citation – is in text and works cited page completed correctly?

**Sentence Structure / Punctuation**

* Verb tense
* Run on sentence
* Sentence fragments
* Subject verb agreement
* Pronoun / antecedent agreement
* Too wordy? Too simple?