Research Paper Rubric/Checklist

__Meets the criteria of the assignment
__Information is accurate
__Information is complete and does not leave questions unanswered
__Paper has an appropriate title
__Paper has a clear thesis
__Introduction follows the guidelines covered in class
__Conclusion follows the guidelines covered in class
__Paper is organized by supporting points, each one supporting the thesis
__Supporting points are adequately developed
__Transition sentences begin supporting points
__Topic sentences begin paragraphs
__Paraphrasing is correct
__Uses a variety of sentence structures, including those with subordinate clauses
__Sentences clearly communicate information
__Uses descriptive vocabulary that is also not pretentious (show-offish); clarity is #1
__Uses formal, "grown-up" language ("many" for "lots," "children" for "kids," etc.)
__Tone is appropriate for non-fiction writing
__No personal pronouns, except within quotes
__Verb tenses agree
__Use of transition words
__All unquoted wording is your own
__Writing has voice – the indescribable but clearly recognizable interest that is communicated through your writing – passion, interest, depth
__Spelling (run spell check!)
__Capitalization
__Punctuation (watch semi-colon use!)
__Grammar
__MLA format on headings of all pages
__Margins are 1” (or standard default)
__Double spaced
__Times New Roman, size 12
__Works Cited follows MLA guidelines
__Parenthetical citations; correct use and format
__Word count – type the number at the bottom of your paper’s last page (not on Works Cited)
__A blank checklist is stapled after Works Cited, then a blank piece of computer paper
__Paper is stapled with one, careful staple in the upper left-hand corner with no other covers
__You have read your paper aloud