



# COLLEGE ESSAY OUTSIDE REVIEW

Thank you for reviewing my essay draft. I am open to any feedback you might have, but please pay particular attention to the items on this checklist and any specific requests I passed along. If possible, please complete your review and return this checklist no later than \_\_\_\_\_.

Feel free to mark up or make comments directly on a copy of the essay or just make notes below.

■ Review the basics, e.g., spelling, grammar, syntax, subject-verb agreement, use of appropriate pronouns, and consistent verb tense.

■ What do you think about the overall flow and story arc? Does the essay show the person you know the writer to be?

■ Is there anything confusing, repetitive, and/or off-topic in the essay? If so, what? Or please highlight.

■ What is the best or strongest part of the essay?

■ Can you tell why the writer chose this topic?

■ Do you feel like the essay is primarily about the student's thoughts, actions, and growth, or more about the person, place, or experience described in the essay?

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- Does the essay ultimately illustrate a positive trait or traits to share with colleges, i.e., the protagonist in the story doesn't come across as whiny, entitled, trite, or negative?

- Is there "TMI" (Too Much Information), especially very personal information in the essay, such that a reviewer might be uncomfortable reading it?

- Does the essay "show" more than "tell"? If not, please highlight sentences or paragraphs where the telling could be edited or is particularly egregious.

- Are opinions stated as facts in the essay? If so, where?



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- Other comments?

**Thank You!**