**REVISION CHECKLIST**

Here are some questions to ask yourself as you work on revising your essay. Remember, revision isn’t running a spell check. Revision is analyzing your writing to make sure it’s as effective as possible, and making changes necessary so that your final draft is as close to perfect as possible.

 **Work as a whole**

 Do you prove your thesis/topic sentence?

 Is there enough evidence? Is there too much evidence?

 Is there enough explanation? Is there too much explanation?

 Does the essay flow smoothly with no interruptions or tangents?

 Does the essay answer every question a reader might have?

 **Chunk**

Do my chunks contain the proper balance of commentary and concrete detail?

 Are all concrete details embedded and cited properly?

 Are my chunks arranged in the most effective order?

 Are there transitions between chunks to help the ideas flow smoothly, and are those

transitions effective (not just “first, next, finally”)?

 Does each chunk explain how it proves your thesis?

 **Sentence**

 Is each sentence complete?

Is each sentence grammatically correct?

 Have I used a variety of sentence structures to add interest?

 Does each sentence contain essential information, and is each sentence necessary?

 **Word**

 Have I used precise and exact words?

 Have I avoided repeating words over and over?

 Is all of my word choice appropriate for my audience?

**Other things you can do to make revision even more effective:**

1. Reading aloud (to yourself or to a friend)
2. Cutting and reorganizing
3. Use the grademark grammar checker on turnitin.com to make sure sentences are grammatically correct.
4. Getting feedback from a peer or adult—preferably someone who is NOT in this class. (People who haven’t been working on the exact same assignment often have “fresh” eyes and can find errors you and your classmates can’t.)