

Pyramid of Writing Concerns

Less important



Spelling

Have you completed a spell check? Did you proofread your paper?
Try reading sentence by sentence starting at the end of each paragraph to focus on what is really on the page.

Word Choice

Are there words whose meanings you are not sure about?
Can you find another word that would more accurately convey what you mean?

Punctuation

Does your punctuation follow punctuation rules?
Is your use of punctuation consistent?

Sentence Structure

Have you identified and corrected grammatical issues in your paper?
Have you read your paper out loud to find awkward phrasing?

Development

Do you have examples or evidence to back up your arguments?
Do the examples and/or evidence match/support your main points?

Organization

How is the paper organized? Is the organization logical?
Does your paper have clear directions and transitions?

Audience

For whom are you writing?
Is your tone appropriate for the audience you are addressing?

Purpose

What is your paper intended to do? (e.g. analyze, summarize, argue, etc.)
Does the purpose match what you're asked to do in the assignment?

Thesis

What exactly is your paper about? Does your paper have a central focus that has been narrowed down and can be expanded? Is your thesis clearly stated?

More important