**American Studies English**

**American Authors Research Paper**

Writer’s Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Title of Paper:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Directions:

* Use this editing sheet to revise the draft of your research paper.
* Be sure to mark the revisions on the hard copy of your draft.

*Note: To reflect the level of detail expected in this essay, there is a 3-page length requirement.*

**Guidelines**

1. Is your essay in MLA format? Complete the following checklist.

* Are the margins one inch?
* Is the last name and page number in the upper right-hand corner of each page? Is it ½ inch from the top of the page? Is it in the same font as the rest of the essay?
* Is there scholarly title, in size 12 font, without an underline or quotes, and without being bolded?
* Is there a proper heading? The heading should be double- spaced with your name, my name, the course name, and the date.

1. Does your essay adhere to proper three-paragraph thesis essay structure? Complete the following checklist.

Introduction

* + - * Put a bracket around your Background Information. The first 6-8 sentences of your paper should be comprised of BI pertaining to The Klondike Gold Rush and Jack London.
      * Underline and label the Main Idea – the closing sentence in your introduction. If you can’t find the Main Idea, add one.
    - Does the MI directly connect to the prompt? If so, put a checkmark above the sentence. If not,

fix it so that it does.

Developmental Paragraph

* + - Label the Topic Sentence. It should be the first sentence in the Developmental Paragraph. Remember to reference your MI, but vary your word choice.
    - Check all of the Lead-Ins and above each one, label the who, the what, and the when. If one or more of the components is missing, write in what you are missing and revise accordingly.
    - Check the sentences of Analysis/Interpretation after each quotation (you should have three) and make sure that they explain the DQ in detail. If they don’t, fix them so they do.
    - Label the possessive, noun, and strong verb formula after all three DQs.
    - Does the last sentence of the developmental paragraph summarize the main point? If not, revise accordingly.

Concluding Paragraph

* + - Do you restate the MI? If not, fix it so you do.
    - Do you include an interesting and appropriate RFS that connects to the literary criticism? If not, add one.

1. Are your in-text citations and Works Cited page properly documented? Complete the following checklist.

* Highlight all of the in-text citations you use in your essay. The essay should contain the following in-text citations:

1. Introduction: Two in-text citations that cite paraphrased information from your biographical source and your historical source.
2. Developmental Paragraph: Three in-text citations that cite DQs from “To Build a Fire.”
3. Conclusion: One in-text citation that cites paraphrased information or a DQ from the literary criticism.

* Make sure that your in-text citations adhere to MLA format. The author’s name and the page number should appear in parenthesis after the DQ or paraphrased information. If the source was obtained on-line, you may not have a page number. If the source does not have an author, use the title of the article.
* Your Works Cited page should be the last page of your essay. It should be titled “Works Cited,” and the title should adhere to MLA format (size 12 Times New Roman font, not underlined or bolded, and centered on the page).
* The Works Cited page should contain MLA citations for all four of the sources you cite in your paper. It should be in alphabetical order.
* The Works Cited Page should be double-spaced and entries should be formatted with hanging indents.

1. Read your essay out loud and make note of spelling, grammar, punctuation, style, and diction. Complete the following checklist.
   * + Underline the first word of every sentence.
     + If you use the same word to start a sentence more than once per page, circle them and draw lines to connect them. You should only use a word once per page at the beginning of a sentence.
     + Check the sentences. Make sure that there are not more than two sentences in a row that have the same sentence structure.
     + Circle the words that are used more than once. Rule: try to use “important” words only once per page.
     + Replace the words / fix the sentences in your draft.
     + Circle every comma. Does it need to be there?
     + Add commas that are missing