**IA 3 CHECKLIST**

**Understanding and analysis of literary texts i.e. your novel (10)**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Do you have a highly relevant quote and/or clear, concise and relevant introductory sentence on your novel in which you name author, title and year of publication?**  **Have you clearly made a connection between relevant aspects of your text, your focus question and your theoretical approaches?** | Yes/No/Maybe |
| **Does the introductory paragraph on your novel (2nd para of paper) provide an insightful synopsis which directly relates to your focus question?** |  |
| **What does your reader need to know about the novel in order to understand the context of your focus question? Have you provided sufficient relevant background information?** |  |
| **Have you deleted all information which is irrelevant to your focus question?** |  |
| **Do you have enough detailed analysis of your text in the body of the essay?** |  |

**Understanding and application of theories (10)**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Are your explanations of theory clear and concise?**  **Have you tried using quotations from theorists instead of attempting to explain the theory yourself?** |  |
| **Did you choose just the right quotes and explanations of theory – the ones that relate to your focus question?** |  |
| **Is there a clear ‘match’ between the theories and what application of the theory reveals?** **Is there a smooth connection between theory and application? Have you been able to apply the theory coherently to relevant aspects of your text?** |  |
| **Have you differentiated between a theorist’s strategies e.g. application of theories, terms and concepts, and typical questions they ask?** |  |
| **Have you been able to show connections between the different theories and concepts you are applying? Do they complement or clash with one another?**  **Have you situated the theory in a ‘school’ of theory (e.g. structuralism) and/or commented on previous theories on which this theory was built?** |  |
| **Have you framed all reading of your text with theory? You must not have any sections where you are interpreting text but not explicitly stating what theory/methodology you are using.** |  |

**Evaluation and Synthesis (10)**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Have you been referring to the colour coded scaffold provided on NEST?** |  |
| **ARE YOU USING PEEL PARAGRAPHS including topic and linking sentences?** |  |
| **Are you adhering to essay structure conventions?** |  |
| **Have you culled all irrelevant information? Have you removed unnecessary repetitions of the same idea? Have you remained sharply focused on your central question? Does everything you have written tightly back map to your focus question?** |  |
| **Have you consistently evaluated the usefulness, strengths and weaknesses of each theory?** |  |
| **Have you identified new insights gained through the application of the theory?** **Have you compared and contrasted these to the insights gained through the application of your other theoretical approaches?** |  |
| **Have you accessed scholarly comments on the strengths and weaknesses of theories?** |  |
| **Have you thoroughly perused the “Synthesis and Evaluation” document on NEST?** |  |

If you need to, re-write paragraphs in PEEL structure, carefully deploying topic and linking sentences which will enhance the synthesis and cohesion aspects of your paper.

**Controlling textual features and conventions**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Have you made your question shorter and snappier?**  **Have you referred to the application of theories in the present tense in your introduction?** |  |
| **ARE YOU USING PEEL PARAGRAPHS including topic and linking sentences?** |  |
| **Are you using in-text referencing in accordance with school policy?**  **Do you have an alphabetized bibliography?** |  |
| **Are you using commas correctly?**  **Are you using semi-colons correctly?**  **Are you punctuating quotations correctly?** |  |
| **Have you italicized all quotes and novel titles?** |  |
| **Have you written about the novel and the application of theory IN THE PRESENT TENSE?** |  |
| **Is your writing clear and concise? How will you check this?** |  |
| **Have you used vocabulary precisely?**  **Have you used words you understand?**  **Have you deleted unnecessary adjectives?**  **Have you deleted repeated words and/or looked for synonyms? (When reiterating topic and/or theories, use fresh language. I don’t want to keep hearing the same words and phrases!)**  **Have you closely read at least one model response in order to consider vocabulary use?**  **Have you been using specialist terms instead of layman terms e.g. *represents* instead of *show*s.** |  |
| **Have you deleted all references to the four approaches to reading? Have you deleted any use of ‘I’? Have you written in the third person?** |  |
| **Have you kept to length requirements? Keep to the limit. Be discerning in your choice of content. Delete repetitions and irrelevancies, re-express ideas more concisely.** |  |