

## MLA RESEARCH ESSAY PROOFREADING LIST: HIGHLIGHTS

Make sure you have:

- 1) A clear and well-located thesis statement at the end of the introduction. The thesis statement is a complete sentence that expresses the main point or idea for the essay.
- 2) Good organization, with clear subtopics and strong paragraph unity.
- 3) Strong, clear, and well-located topic/transition sentences at the beginning of each new body paragraph.
- 4) Solid supporting research evidence for subtopics.
- 5) Signal phrases to quotes (within the same sentence as those quotes, except for block quotes, where the signal phrase is located before the block quote, followed by a full colon, and then by the block quote, which is indented 10 spaces and uses no quotation marks).
- 6) Proper citations after quotes, summaries, paraphrases, and original stats, facts, and ideas.
- 7) A well-constructed Works Cited page.
- 8) An original title to your paper that attract your reader and reflects your thesis focus.

**NOTE:** For more writing resources, see the forum "Writing: Tools & Strategies" at <http://www.iDiscourse.com>.