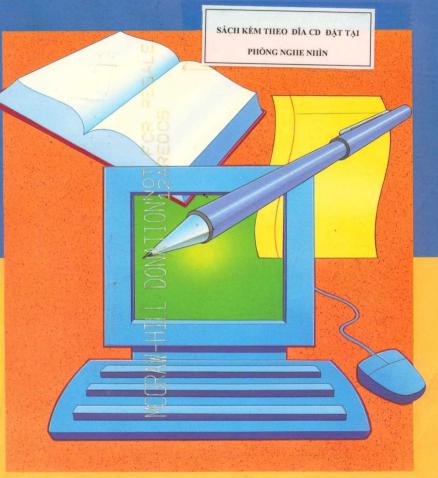
English Skills with Readings Fifth Edition



John Langan

CHECKLIST OF THE FOUR BASES IN EFFECTIVE WRITING

This checklist is a guide for both writing and evaluate a paper. The numbers in parentheses refer to the pages that explain the skill in question.

1 Unity

- Clear opening statement of the point of your paper? (47-49; 57-60)
- All material on target in support of opening point? (132-133; 142-146)

2 Support

- Specific evidence? (49–55; 72–73; 134–135)
- Plenty of it? (55–57; 73–76; 147–149)

3 Coherence

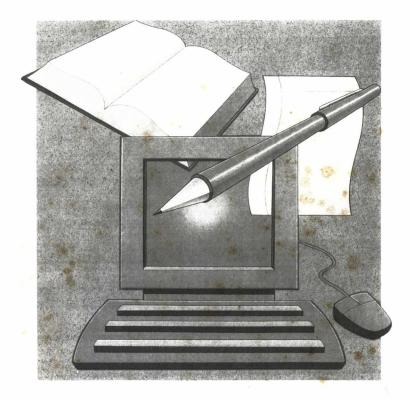
- Clear method of organization? (79-81; 88-93; 136-137; 151-154)
- Transitions and other connective devices? (81–87; 93–96)

4 Sentence Skills

- Fragments eliminated? (369)
- Run-ons eliminated? (385)
- Correct verb forms? (400; 409; 418)
- Subject and verb agreement? (418)
- Faulty parallelism and faulty modifiers eliminated? (97; 443; 447)
- Faulty pronouns eliminated? (425)
- Capital letters used correctly? (457)
- Punctuation marks where needed?
 - a Apostrophe (469)
 - b Quotation marks (478)
 - c Comma (485)
 - d Colon; Semicolon (496; 497)
 - e Dash; Hyphen (497; 498)
 - f Parentheses (499)
- Correct paper format? (452)
- Needless words eliminated? (105)
- Effective word choices? (529)
- Possible spelling errors checked? (500-501; 509; 519)
- Careless errors removed through editing and proofreading? (114–116; 166; 558)
- Sentences varied? (107)

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John Langan has taught reading and writing at Atlantic Cape Community College near Atlantic City, New Jersey, for over twenty-five years. The author of a popular series of college textbooks on both subjects, he enjoys the challenge of developing materials that teach skills in an especially clear and lively way. Before teaching, he earned advanced degrees in writing at Rutgers University and in reading at Rowan University. He also spent a year writing fiction that, he says, "is now at the back of a drawer waiting to be discovered and acclaimed posthumously." While in school, he supported himself by working as a truck driver, machinist, battery assembler, hospital attendant, and apple packer. He now lives with his wife, Judith Nadell, near Philadelphia. Among his everyday pleasures are running, working on his Macintosh computer, and watching Philadelphia sports teams on TV. He also loves to read: newspapers at breakfast, magazines at lunch, and a chapter or two of a recent book ("preferably an autobiography") at night.

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