Rough Draft Checklist

☐ 1. Write with a pencil on notebook paper.

☐ 2. Record this information on the left side of your paper.
   ➢ Name: (your name)
   ➢ Date: (today’s date)
   ➢ WA: (Writing Assignment number)
   ➢ Purpose: (to describe, to tell a story, to inform, etc.)
   ➢ Genre: (descriptive, narrative, expository, etc.)
   ➢ Audience: (classmates, teacher, parents, friend, etc.)
   ➢ Topic: (the topic of your writing)

☐ 3. Skip the next line.

☐ 4. Format your rough draft.
   ➢ Skip every other line and use extra wide margins as you write.
   ➢ Indent the first line of every paragraph.

☐ 5. Use these writing traits as you write your rough draft.

Idea

1. Write the ideas from your prewriting map in complete sentences.

2. Add interesting details to support main points.

Organization

3. Develop an engaging introduction, a powerful body, and a strong conclusion.

4. Have a clear topic sentence for each paragraph.

5. Arrange sentences and paragraphs in a logical order, using transition words to link ideas, opinions, reasons, or events.
6. **Use precise nouns and verbs to engage the reader’s imagination.**

7. **Use vivid adjectives and adverbs to create strong mental pictures.**

8. **Use prepositional phrases to add more detail and description.**

9. **Use word choices to express ideas in different ways.**

10. **Use similes, metaphors, or personification to add contrast and interest.**

11. **Use a variety of simple, compound, and complex sentences.**

12. **Vary sentence length by making some long and some short.**

13. **Use different sentence patterns to give your writing variety.**

14. **Follow the rules of capitalization and punctuation.**

15. **Use correct spelling, homonyms, plural forms, and subject-verb agreement.**

6. **Think of a title after you finish writing your rough draft.**

   Skip two lines below the last line of your rough draft and write your title.

7. **Put your rough draft and prewriting map in your Rough Draft folder.**