Character Analysis Essay Checklist

➤ Have you correctly formatted your paper in MLA formatting? See the back of your green Outline handout for formatting.

➤ Do you have the correct number of paragraphs as is indicated on your green Outline handout and on the back of this checklist?

➤ Have you reviewed your paper for spelling and grammar errors?

➤ Have you replaced lower-level, basis words with meaningful, upper-level vocabulary words?

➤ Have you replaced lower-level, basic verbs with meaningful, dynamic verbs? (Note: Use the “Verb” handout to help replace words such as “Shows” and “Tells” with higher-level verb choices.)

➤ Have you underlined or italicized the title of our play?

➤ Have you eliminated all personal pronouns and replaced them with the objective case?

Example:

**I thought that** Tybalt showed the most change when…

 VS.

Tybalt showed the most change when…

➤ Have you supported your ideas with textual evidence? Be sure to cite in-text citations using the guidelines below:

For verse plays, the MLA Handbook says:

"In citing commonly studied verse plays and poems, omit page numbers altogether and cite by division (act, scene, canto, book, part) and line, with periods separating the various numbers.”

In an example it gives for a citation of Act 5, scene 1, lines 5-12 of Shakespeare's *Antony and Cleopatra*, the in-text citation appears as: **(Ant. 5.1.5-12)**. The handbook states that the titles of famous plays are often abbreviated.

The handbook also specifies that unless otherwise instructed, you should use arabic numerals even if the original play uses roman numerals. For example, the original play may say "Act VII" but you would still use "7" in your citation.

So...*Romeo and Juliet,* Act V, Scene 2, lines 3-4 might look like this in your paper:

(Rom. 5.2.3-4) (Notice that there are no spaces between the periods in your in-text citation.

\*Note: I will show you how to format a Works Cited page for this essay in a different lesson.\*