DRC Writer’s Checklist (for all prompts)
Updated 6-23-17

Narrative Writer’s Checklist for Grades 3-8:
• My narrative has an effective beginning, middle, and end.
• My narrative flows smoothly from one idea to another.
• My narrative develops plot, character(s), and setting.
• My narrative includes specific and relevant details, reasons, and/or examples.
• My narrative uses precise and vivid language.
• My narrative contains sentences that are clear and varied in structure.
• My narrative includes correct grammar, usage, punctuation, capitalization, and spelling.
• My narrative uses material from the source(s).

Informational/Explanatory Writer’s Checklist for Grades 3-8:
• My essay has an effective beginning, middle, and end.
• My essay flows smoothly from one idea to another.
• My essay contains a strong controlling idea that stays on topic.
• My essay includes specific and relevant details, reasons, and/or examples.
• My essay uses precise and vivid language.
• My essay contains sentences that are clear and varied in structure.
• My essay includes correct grammar, usage, punctuation, capitalization, and spelling.
• My essay uses material from the source(s).

Argumentative Writer’s Checklist for Grades 7/8:
• My argument has an effective beginning, middle, and end.
• My argument flows smoothly from one idea to another.
• My argument contains a clear claim and addresses a counterclaim.
• My argument includes specific and relevant details, reasons, and/or examples.
• My argument uses precise and vivid language.
• My argument contains sentences that are clear and varied in structure.
• My argument includes correct grammar, usage, punctuation, capitalization, and spelling.
• My argument uses material from the source(s).

Argumentative Writer’s Checklist for Grade 6:
• My argument has an effective beginning, middle, and end.
• My argument flows smoothly from one idea to another.
• My argument contains a clear claim.
• My argument includes specific and relevant details, reasons, and/or examples.
• My argument uses precise and vivid language.
• My argument contains sentences that are clear and varied in structure.
• My argument includes correct grammar, usage, punctuation, capitalization, and spelling.
• My argument uses material from the source(s).
Opinion Essay Writer’s Checklist for Grades 3-5:

- My essay has an effective beginning, middle, and end.
- My essay flows smoothly from one idea to another.
- My essay contains a strong controlling idea that stays on topic.
- My essay includes specific and relevant details, reasons, and/or examples.
- My essay uses precise and vivid language.
- My essay contains sentences that are clear and varied in structure.
- My essay includes correct grammar, usage, punctuation, capitalization, and spelling.
- My essay uses material from the source(s).