

Success Criteria for Critical Essays – 30 point check

- 1 Use the checklist below as a reminder of what is required in a Critical Essay.
- 2 Check your essay against this list.
- 3 Ensure that you have amended and improved your essay before submitting it to be marked.

Have you written the task at the top?	
Have you put your name, class, title of text, author on paper?	
Planning - Have you identified the key words and focus of the question?	
Have you written enough detail in your plan?	
Have you put the title of the text in inverted commas?	
Have you used capital letters for the title of the text?	
In your introduction have you included the title, the author, the focus of the question and some detail about the text?	
Does each paragraph have a topic sentence?	
Does each paragraph discuss one point only?	
Have you included quotations to illustrate your point?	
Are your quotations inserted correctly – layout and punctuation?	
Have you analysed – identified the technique and author’s purpose?	
Have you evaluated your point – discussed how effectively/successfully the author have achieved his/her purpose?	
Have you related this to the focus of the question?	
Have you checked your choice of vocabulary – no get/lots, etc?	
Have you ensured you have a line of argument?	
Have you used the present tense to relate the events of the text?	
Have you varied your language of evaluation?	
Have you identified the stylistic devices employed by the writer?	
Have you used transitional markers?	
Have you linked your points?	
Have you ensured your style is formal at all times? (No abbreviations or colloquial language)	
Have you used the possessive apostrophe correctly?	
Have you used the writer’s name?	
Have you avoided “you” and used “we” or the reader/audience?	
Have you checked for repetition/varied vocabulary?	
Have you related your points in the conclusion to the author’s purpose/themes?	
Does your conclusion sum up the points you have made?	
Does your conclusion answer the question?	
Is the length of your Essay appropriate?	