Sociology Writing Checklist

- Grammar and Mechanics
  - Are there any incomplete sentences?
  - How well are commas used?
  - Is the writing very wordy? Be concise
  - Use writing tips on the sociology website

- Strong Thesis
  - Should be made clear fairly early in the paper
  - Are you able to highlight the thesis?
  - Is it obvious what point

- Development of Thesis
  - While the writing aspect of a paper is important, the content is even more important
  - Ask questions like:
    * Are you using and defining sociological concepts?
    * Are you using texts and evidence from authors?
    * Are you quoting?

- Interpretation of concepts
  - Does the writer have a voice?
  - Is the writer interpreting the concepts they present in a way that answers the question and backs up the question?
  - Is there a place for the student to take a creative approach?

- PROOFREAD!
  - The professors WILL take off points if it is clear that a paper has not been proofread.
  - Specifically, look for obvious mistakes like incomplete sentences or sentences that maybe should have been deleted or are awkward.