

# Creative Writing Revision Checklist

1. What genre best describes this piece? \_\_\_\_\_
2. Who is your intended audience? \_\_\_\_\_
3. This piece is for:   personal feedback/writing portfolio (assessment) \_\_\_\_\_  
                                  marks (evaluation) \_\_\_\_\_
4. What is the intended mood or feeling you want your reader to experience? \_\_\_\_\_
5. Which of the five senses have you appealed to most in this piece? \_\_\_\_\_

6. Have you avoided generalities and instead provided concrete details to appeal to these senses? Provide 3 examples of where you have used a variety of interesting details to make your descriptive writing ‘come alive’:  
*\* Note: Examples of concrete imagery include detailed phrases “I heard Mom slowly pulling back my faded denim curtains”*

i)

ii)

iii)

7. If this piece is a story, identify its necessary central conflict \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

*\*Note: Conflict can range from inter-galactic warfare to telling a friend you don’t wish to help them cheat on a final exam. Whatever the conflict, there should be a realization or . . . change/shift in the viewpoint of the central character.*

8. How engaging is the opening of your piece? Have you used compelling vocabulary and created a ‘fresh’ image? Are you avoiding clichés like “It was a dark and stormy night”?  
 Yes    No    Somewhat

How effective is the ending of your piece? Does your reader experience an ‘ah hah’ moment of recognition? Do they experience a sense of satisfaction or enjoyment at its conclusion?    Yes    No    Somewhat

10. Have you consciously organized your writing to serve your purpose? Are paragraphs built in to help tell your story or put across your point of view?  
 Yes    No    Somewhat

11. Does your author’s voice match your purpose for writing?  
 Yes    No    Somewhat

*\* Note: For instance, a character in a novel may speak conversationally about a divorce, while a lawyer might say the same message using a much more formal delivery.*

(cont’d)



# Creative Writing Revision Checklist (cont'd)

12. If you're writing poetry, do you capture the essence of a particular moment (or event) in time? Have you consciously chosen to use vocabulary that is 'musical'?
- Yes    No    Somewhat

*\* Note: if a poem's topic is angry in tone, consider using words containing hard sounds like the letters G, D, R, or K.. More gentle poetry often uses the softer sounds created by S, W, or F.*

13. Does your authentic voice come through to your reader? Do you take risks?
- Yes    No    Somewhat

*\* Note: Often, when you write about what you know, your interest and enthusiasm for your subject will be contagious for your readers and will engage them in your work.*

14. What should I take out? \_\_\_\_\_

Have I repeated myself? Have I added unnecessary or distracting detail? Have I been overly wordy?    Yes    No    Somewhat

15. What should I add? Do I need to make my point clearer or my story more compelling? Do I need to add dialogue or more sensory imagery?
- Yes    No

16. List your 3 favourite lines from your piece, and explain why you like them:

i)

ii)

iii)

17. List 3 sentences that you are struggling with and hope to improve:

i)

ii)

iii)

18. Self and Peer Evaluation of this writing piece:

- Writing piece is fully revised and a 'clean' copy may be submitted as final draft  
 Some minor revisions are still necessary before final draft completed  
 Some important revisions are still necessary before final draft completed  
 Major revision is still needed before final draft is completed

