Thesis Statement
IDENTIFY THE THESIS STATEMENT.
1. Does it commit the writer to a single line of argument? _____
2. Is it clear, direct and concise? _____
3. Does it predict the major divisions in the structure of the paper? _____
   • If not, how should the writer change the thesis statement? _______

Argument
FOLLOW THE LINE OF ARGUMENT IN THE PAPER.
1. Does the argument keep within the boundary set by the thesis statement? _____
2. Do the main points of each sentence follow logically from the thesis statement? _____
3. Do specific examples and details back up the main point of each paragraph? _____
   • If not, how should the writer structure his/her argument? _______

Clarity
MAKE IT CLEAR!
1. Do most sentences avoid the verb to be and passive voice? _____
2. Do strong, active verbs show how the subjects of the sentences act? _____
3. Are nominalizations (abstract nouns like discovery, movement, and resistance) kept to a minimum? _____
   • Instead, does the writer use the verb forms (resist, discover, move)? _____
   • If not, suggest at least one change to eliminate the verb to be, passive voice or a nominalization. __________________________

Cohesion
BEGIN WELL!
Does the beginning of each sentence connect logically to the sentence before by:
1. beginning with the last idea in the previous sentence, _____ or
2. using words that place the reader in time, _____ or
3. using words (moreover, therefore, on the other hand) that connect the reader to the previous idea, _____ or by
4. beginning with new information? _____
   • If not, suggest at least one change to help connect a new idea to a previous idea. __________________________

Emphasis
END WITH A BANG!
1. Are endings of sentences, paragraphs, but most importantly, of the paper—strong? _____
2. Is the most important or the new information at the end of a sentence? _____
3. Is the end of each sentence, paragraph, and paper—spare and trim? _____
4. Does the conclusion end with a bang? _____
   • If not, suggest at least one change. __________________________

Citation: Has this paper cited both films and the novel correctly? _______

WOW FACTOR: What do you love best in this paper?

Bonus—To Be Checkup: Circle every example of the verb to be (am, is, are, was, were, be, being, been) in this paper. How many have you found? _____