Extended Essay Checklist

Use the following checklist to help you meet the IB General Assessment Criteria. Also be sure to look at the subject specific criteria for your subject area

A – Focus and Method (6 points possible)

The research question…

____ is clearly and precisely stated in the early part of the essay.
____ is sharply focused and not a broad generalization.
____ The topic lends itself to a systematic investigation in my chosen subject area
____ can be effectively dealt within the 4000 word limit of an extended essay.

The Introduction includes…

____ an indication of why the topic chosen is interesting, important, or worthy of study
____ some background information and places the topic in an appropriate context
____ whether the topic has been narrowed to a focus of more manageable proportions
____ a clearly and precisely stated research question
____ a clear concluding statement of the thesis and argument, i.e. the response to the research question that will subsequently be developed in the body of the essay

Investigation and methodology

____ I have included relevant materials, sources, data and evidence in my essay.
____ I have not included irrelevant information in my essay.
____ I have effectively analyzed the evidence/material/sources/data in my essay.

B – Knowledge and Understanding (6 points possible)

Knowledge and understanding of topic studied

____ My essay demonstrates very good understanding of the topic studied
____ My essay clearly locates the investigation in an academic context
____ My evaluation of sources and/or data is appropriate and fully substantiated.
____ I have, through the use of proper grammatical forms, clearly expressed my ideas.

Use of language appropriate to the subject

____ Language used communicates clearly and precisely
____ Terminology appropriate to the subject is used accurately
____ the language used clearly demonstrates an understanding of the concepts in this subject area

C – Critical Thinking (12 points possible)

Reasoned argument

____ My essay demonstrates a reasonable argument that remains focused on my research question.
____ Ideas are presented clearly and in a logical and coherent manner

Analytical skills appropriate to the subject

____ My essay demonstrates effective and sophisticated application of appropriate analytical and evaluative skills.
____ The use of less relevant materials does not detract from the overall argument
____ Conclusions to individual points are clearly linked and effectively supported by the evidence presented

Evaluative skills appropriate to the subject

____ An effective and focused reasoned argument is clearly developed
____ The argument is well structured and coherent
____ There is a strong conclusion and/or final summative assessment
____ I have critically evaluated the research throughout the essay

D – Formal Presentation (4 points possible)

____ I have a title page clearly stating my research question, the subject of my extended essay, my name and candidate number.
____ I have included a table of contents if necessary
____ Each page of my essay is correctly numbered
____ I have accurately and consistently cited all my sources in an accepted format
____ I have included either a bibliography or a works cited page in an accepted format

E – Engagement (6 points possible); this section is not a part of the essay itself

My three required reflections…

____ Are evaluative and have considered actions and ideas appropriate to respond to challenges
____ Communicated a high degree of personal and intellectual engagement with the research presented in the essay
____ Have evidence of authenticity, intellectual initiative, and a creative approach to the process of research

Approximate grade boundaries are as follows:

Grade:	E	D	C	B	A
Mark range:	0 - 6	7-13	14-20	21-26	27-34

Please note that grade boundaries do vary per subject per year. These boundaries are from the 2022 May Examination session for English A1. The scores usually only vary by 1-2 points in each grade category. To play it safe, make sure that you can score at least 10 points in the EE.