If Walls Could Talk Rubric

Name: _______________________________________________

Heading and Title

❑ Header and heading are correctly formatted.
❑ Title is correctly formatted and evokes interest in the reader.

_______ of 5 points possible

Topic Outline

❑ The thesis statement is included with the outline.
❑ The topic outline contains the main ideas of the paper in order and is correctly formatted.

_______ of 5 points possible

Research Paper

❑ The research paper is the required length and is correctly formatted.
❑ Paragraphs are indented, and the paper does not contain contractions or any form of second person.
❑ The paper is clear and focused. (It follows the outline and stays on topic.)
❑ The paper uses the required four sources and does not rely heavily on one source (one Internet source/web site, one scholarly article, and two different wild card sources).
❑ The introduction contains the thesis statement (last sentence in this section) and creates interest in the reader.
❑ The paper contains relevant information and includes a conclusion.

_______ of 40 points possible

Syntax and Grammar: American Standard English

❑ The paper uses correct sentence structure (no run-ons, fragments, or comma splices).
❑ The paper uses correct grammar and appropriate voice.
❑ The paper is free of misspelled words or typographical errors.
❑ The paper uses correct punctuation and capitalization.

_______ of 20 points possible

Note Cards and Sources (citations)

❑ Thirty note cards are in Noodletools and are correctly formatted with topics.
❑ Four required citations are submitted and correctly formatted.

_______ of 10 points possible

Parenthetical Documentation

❑ Citations are correctly formatted, and there is at least one in each paragraph of the body.
❑ There is at least one but no more than ten lines of directly quoted material throughout the paper.
❑ Direct quotes of more than 4 lines are indented 10 spaces. (only one)

_______ of 10 points possible

Works Cited

❑ All of the required sources are listed in alphabetical order using correct MLA format.
❑ Web sites include the URL at the end of the entry. < www.______ >.

_______ of 10 points
Plagiarism—automatic deduction of five-ten points if any box is checked

- There is no parenthetical documentation within the paper.
- Student has downloaded, copied, or bought a paper from someone else and turned it in as his/her own work.
- Student has copied an entire article from a website or electronic database and turned it in as his/her own work.
- Student has cut and pasted from several works and called the product his/her own work.
- Student has faked citations.
- The student has rearranged the author’s original words (this is not paraphrasing because the student did not put the original words in his or her own words—just merely rearranged them. Example: Because the government has overspent, schools are poorly funded. Student’s Words: Schools are poorly funded because the government overspends.)
- Using the author's original words but changing the adjectives—this is still plagiarism—the student is using the author’s words but only changing one or two and calling the words his/her own.
- The student’s words are too close to the original.
- Failing to put quotation marks around directly quoted material.
- Placing quotation marks around directly quoted material and ending the quotation prematurely. (Continuing to copy from the source word for word without putting the rest of the quote in quotation marks.)
- Sources on the Works Cited page are not used within the paper.
- Sources used within the paper are not on the Works Cited page.

____________________ # of points earned   Comments: