



# The Five-Paragraph Essay

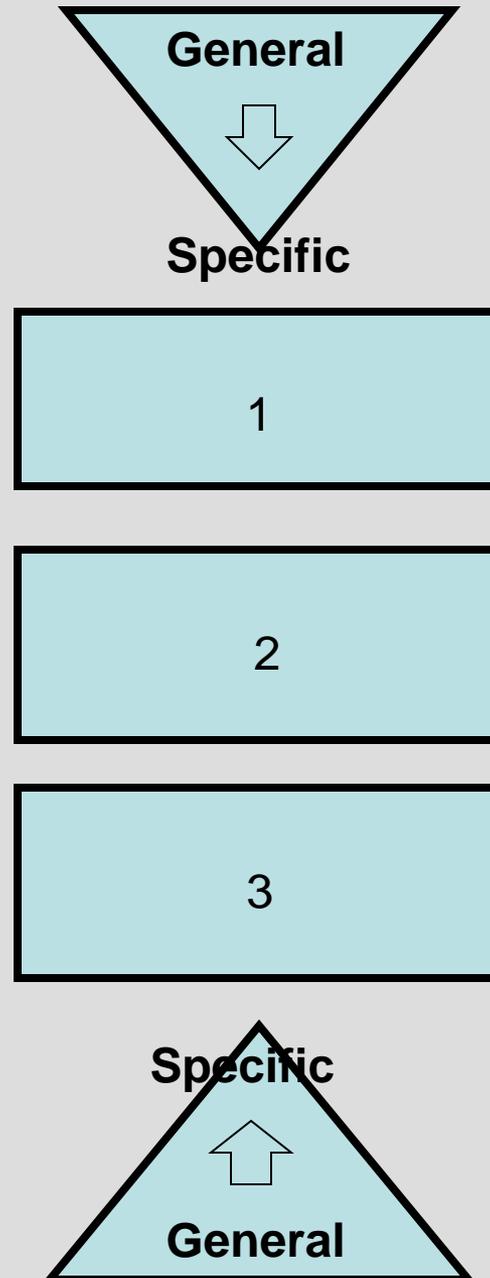
Created by Woodward Academy

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Transitions by J. Sharp

# Format:



- **Introductory Paragraph**
- **First Body Paragraph**
- **Second Body Paragraph**
- **Third Body Paragraph**
- **Concluding Paragraph**

# Let's explore general and specific for a minute

## Specific Idea (Thesis)

- Oreo cookies are the best cookies in the world for a variety of reasons.



- The movie Indiana Jones and the last crusade is a good example of a quest movie.

## General Idea

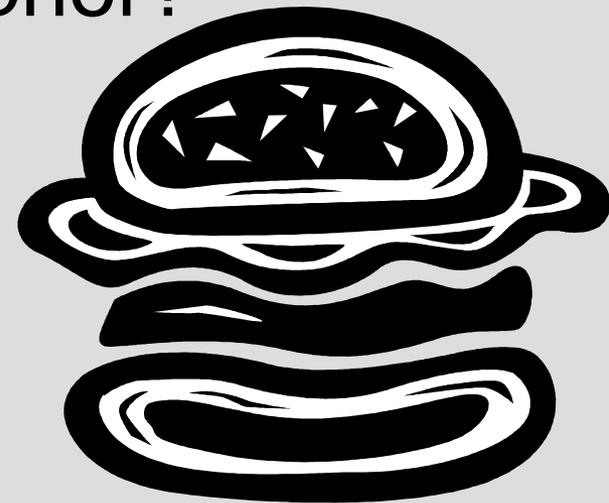
- Cookies.



- Many modern movies make good use of the ancient quest formula.

# Food for Thought

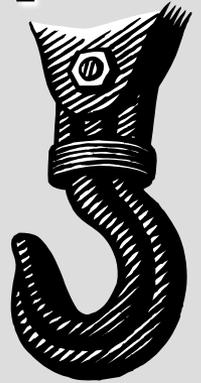
- Why do teachers compare the essay format or the format of a paragraph to a hamburger?
- Can you think of a better metaphor?
- Why bother learning to write an essay anyways?



# Introductory Paragraph

- **Begin with a hook:**

The purpose of the hook is to simply get your reader interested in reading more. Hook the reader and reel 'em in to read the essay! The hook should be GENERAL, not specific like the thesis.



- **Introduce the main arguments of the body paragraphs.**

- **End with a strong thesis statement:**

Your thesis is the point you are trying to prove in the essay. Each paragraph should refer back to the thesis statement.



# Body Paragraphs



- Your essay should have three body paragraphs. Each of these paragraphs should *support* your essay's main point (thesis).
- A body paragraph is like a one-paragraph essay with an introductory sentence at the beginning and specific support following.

**Watch out you  
unsuspecting  
grade nine  
students! PPE  
is coming back  
to haunt you!!!**



# Each Body Paragraph Includes:

- A transition and an introductory sentence that explains the point of your paragraph.
- A **POINT** that connects to your thesis.
- **PROOF** to support the point. This can be a short quote with the correct citation.
- An **EXPLANATION** of the proof. It is your insightful commentary. This should always refer back to your thesis.
- You can repeat **PPE** as many times as you want in each body paragraph.
- Your last sentence should conclude the paragraph.

# Common Transitions

**To add an idea:** also, another, equally important, finally, furthermore, in addition, last, likewise, moreover, most important, next, second, third

**To give an example:** as a case in point, as an illustration, consider..., for example, for instance

**To make a contrast:** and yet, but, however, instead, nevertheless, nonetheless, on the contrary, on the other hand, still

**To begin a conclusion:** as a result, clearly, hence, in conclusion, no wonder, obviously, then, therefore, thus

# Conclusion



- The last paragraph of your essay should give a sense of **finality**.
- The conclusion is the reverse of the introduction. BEGIN by REWORDING your thesis statement.
- Remind your reader what he/she has just learned from your three body paragraphs.
- Your final sentence should leave the reader **no doubt** that your essay has **ended**. It should be a GENERAL statement, not specific like the thesis.

# THE END

- The powerpoint on the five paragraph essay is

**OVER!**