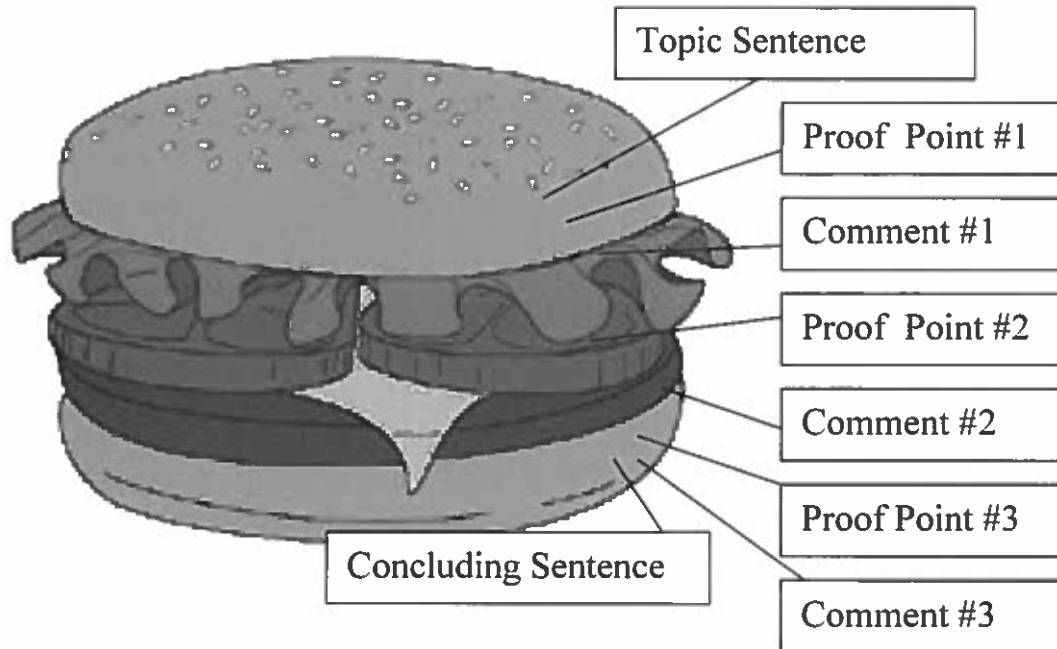


Writing Skills

The Hamburger Paragraph



Structure of the Hamburger Paragraph:

Topic Sentence

- One sentence that answer the question or introduces topic or subject
- States 3 main points

Body (Proof and Comments)

- Evidence that supports topic sentence is presented and analyzed
- You must have 3 “Proof Points” (ie. 3 main points)

Comment

- For each Proof Point you must have a Comment Point (basically, one sentence that explains your Proof Point)

Concluding Sentence

- Summarizes the main idea of the paragraph and ends it
- Restates topic sentence with 3 main points

Sample Paragraph:

The most defining historical moment in my life occurred when I went away to University. Moving away, making new friends, and realizing my career path has forever changed me. First, I moved away from my family and lived on my own for the first time. Moving away made me more self-sufficient and independent. Another reason that going to University was a defining historical moment was that I made a lot of new friends. By living in residence and attending classes with hundreds of other students, I was able to meet many people and form lifelong friendships. Finally, University was a defining historical moment for me because I realized that I wanted to become a History teacher. I was so inspired by my amazing University History professors that I decided to apply to Teachers' College and become a high school History teacher. Moving away, making new friends and realizing my career path clearly demonstrate that attending University was a defining historical moment in my life.

NAME: _____
DUE: _____

Defining Historical Moments Paragraph Template

You are to write a hamburger paragraph about a significant and defining moment in your life. You must fill out this outline and word-process your final paragraph.

INTRODUCTORY SENTENCE

- Introduces your topic, state 3 main points
- Gives some general remarks or information about your topic
- A THESIS states your opinion

PROOF POINT#1

- Topic sentence introduces your first proof point.
- Details give proof or support your point

COMMENT POINT#1

- Explains or elaborates upon your first proof point sentence.
- Gives additional information or your opinion

PROOF POINT#2

- Topic sentence introduces your second proof point.
- Details give proof or support your point



COMMENT POINT#2

- Explains or elaborates upon your second proof point sentence.
- Gives additional information or your opinion

PROOF POINT#3

- Topic sentence introduces your third proof point.
- Details give proof or support your point

COMMENT POINT#3

- Explains or elaborates upon your third proof point sentence.
- Gives additional information or your opinion

CONCLUSION

- Makes a smooth transition from the body paragraphs (eg. "In conclusion...")
- Reinforces your main points from your body paragraphs
- Reinforces your overall opinion
- Ends with strength!

Name: _____

**Defining Historical Moment
Marking Scheme**

Category	Level 0 (0-49%)	Level 1 (50-59%)	Level 2 (60-69%)	Level 3 (70-79%)	Level 4 (80-100%)
Thinking/ Inquiry Topic Sentence	No introductory statement apparent	Weak or incomplete introductory statement	Satisfactory introductory statement	Good introductory statement	Excellent introductory statement
Concluding Statement	No concluding statement	Weak or incomplete concluding statement	Satisfactory concluding statement	Good concluding statement	Excellent concluding statement
Knowledge/ Understanding Body	No related proof points	Proof points are vague, unclear, and/or do not support topic sentence	All or most major proof points are made but all/some do not support topic sentence	All or most major proof points are made and support topic sentence with a considerable degree of effectiveness	All major proof points are made and support topic sentence with a high degree of effectiveness
Communication Mechanics	Mechanical errors severely detract from effectiveness	Several mechanical errors (8-10)	Some mechanical errors (5-7)	Few mechanical errors (2-4)	Almost no mechanical errors (0-1)
Style and Interest	Topic/proof points lack thought and interest	Topic/proof points are somewhat thoughtful and interesting	Topic/proof points are fairly thoughtful and interesting	Topic/proof points are very thoughtful and interesting	Topic/proof points are extremely thoughtful and interesting

Overall Grade: