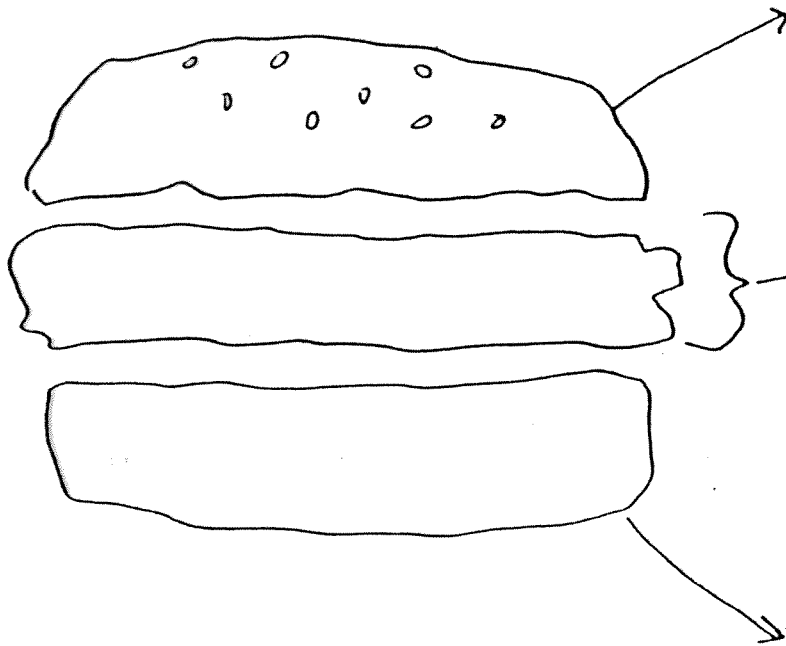


Writing Skills

THE "HAMBURGER PARAGRAPH"

I. Structure of the Paragraph



TOPIC SENTENCE

- 1 sentence that answers the question or introduces topic or subject *+ give your main pts*
- (a.k.a. 'lead', topic sentence or thesis)

BODY

- evidence that supports topic sentence is presented and analysed
- try for THREE pieces of evidence *proof + comma*
- minimum of 3 sentences

CONCLUDING SENTENCE

- summarizes the main idea of the paragraph and ends it
- restates topic sentence

Sample Paragraph

Summer is a better time of year than winter because people enjoy time outside, people tend to exercise more often and there is no school (Topic Sentence). In the summertime, people tend to spend more time outside (Proof). Spending time outside is healthy and it make most people feel happier (Comment). Summer is also a time when people get more exercise (Proof) because they are happy to walk, rollerblade or skate to a friend's house (Comment). In the winter, it is often too cold (Proof) to do anything outside so people are inactive inside (Comment). Finally, summer is the very best time of year because there is no school (Proof). Young people love sleeping in and having no homework or bells to control their days (Comment). Clearly, summer is the best time of year since people are outside, people exercise more often and there is no school (Concluding Sentence).

main pts