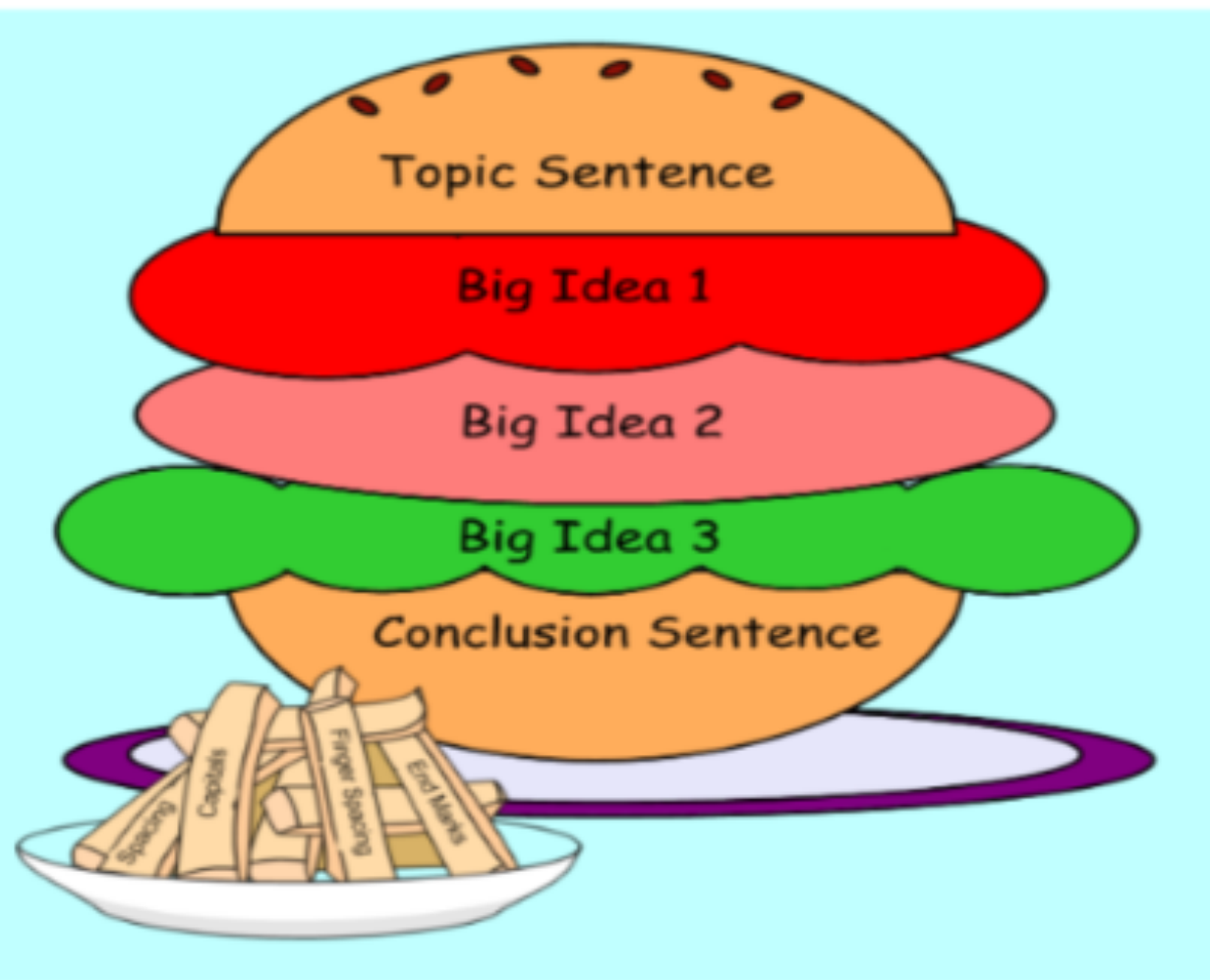


5 Simple Tips for Writing Effective Paragraphs



*How is a paragraph like this
Hamburger?*





Topic Sentence

Big Idea 1

Big Idea 2

Big Idea 3

Conclusion Sentence

Spacing

Capitals

Punctuation

End Marks

5 Tips:

- ❑ Indent the first line
- ❑ ONE central idea
- ❑ Details:
 - why this idea is important
 - reasons & examples to support
 - Use key terms
- ❑ Capitals & proper sentences
- ❑ Any length

5 Tips:

- ❑ Indent the first line
- ❑ ONE central idea
- ❑ Details:
 - why this idea is important
 - reasons & examples to support
 - Use key terms
- ❑ Capitals & proper sentence
- ❑ Any length

#1

☐ Indent the first line

→ *Press the “tab” button at the beginning of your first sentence in a new paragraph.*

5 Tips:

- ❑ Indent the first line
- ❑ **ONE central idea**
- ❑ **Details:**
 - why this idea is important
 - reasons & examples to support
 - Use key terms
- ❑ **Capitals & proper sentence**
- ❑ **Any length**

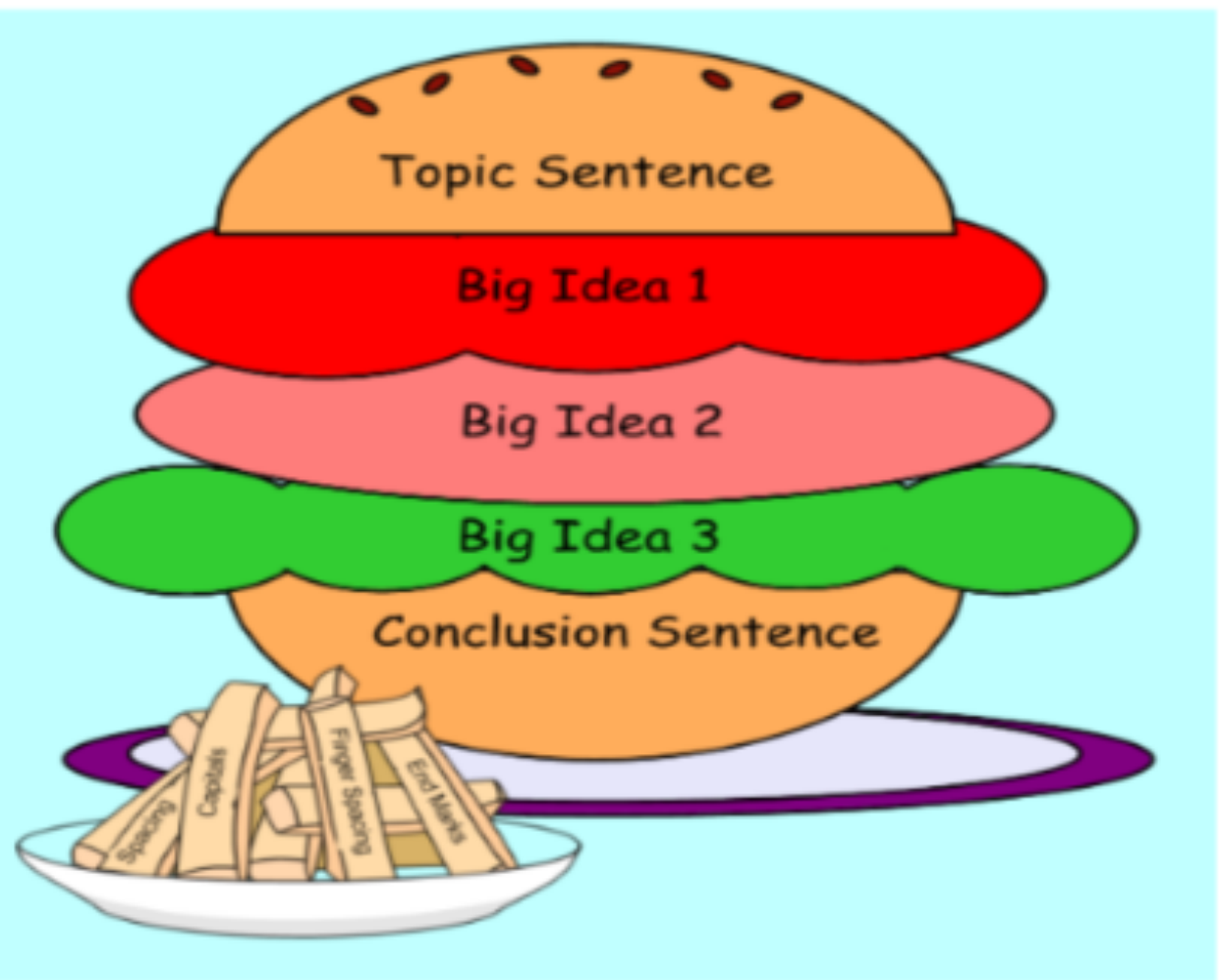
#2

❑ ONE central idea

→ *Each paragraph should be focused on one central idea/concept*

→ *Don't jump around with random points.*





5 Tips:

- ❑ Indent the first line
- ❑ ONE central idea
- ❑ **Details:**
 - why this idea is important
 - reasons & examples to support
 - use key terms
- ❑ Capitals & proper sentences
- ❑ Any length

#3:

☐ Details:

- Clearly identify why or how the idea is important to your writing
- Give reasons and share examples to support your main idea
- Use key terms that will add impact to your idea.

Sample Terms:

Multiple Intelligences

Learning Styles

Accommodations

Kinesthetic

Bodily

Visual

Auditory

Intrapersonal

Interpersonal

Naturalistic

Logical

Creativity

Communication

Literacy

Numeracy

5 Tips:

- ❑ Indent the first line
- ❑ ONE central idea
- ❑ Details:
 - why this idea is important
 - reasons & examples to support
 - Use key terms
- ❑ **Capitals & proper sentences**
- ❑ Any length

#4:

- ❑ **Capitals & proper sentences**
 - Always begin your sentences with a capital letter on the first word
 - ***Always capitalize the word “I”***
 - Include punctuation, such as periods, commas and apostrophes.



Capitalize

with **M. I. N. T. S.**



M. Months

My birthday is in **October**.

I. The letter I

If **I** go to the store, **I** buy ice cream.

N. Names

People, States, & Countries

Carrie, who is from **Kansas**, would love to go to **Italy**.

T. Titles

I love the movie **Up**.

S. Start of Sentences

Capitalizing is easy when you remember **M. I. N. T. S.**



#4:

#5:

❑ Any length

→ *paragraphs are generally between 3-6 sentences in length*

→ *But, paragraphs can really be an unlimited length!*

"A paragraph should be as long or as short as it needs to be to express the main idea of that paragraph."

But, before you write...

It's a good idea to brainstorm on what you'll be writing about.

Do this by:

- 1 - identifying the main idea(s) you want to communicate;
- 2- jot down point-form notes that support each idea

What are the “Main ideas” in each paragraph of your self-advocacy letter?

- #1 - Introduce who you are, *and* your personal likes/dislikes
- #2 - Explain how you learn best
- #3 - What helps to learn better in school
- #4 - Explain what you think makes a good teacher

Your writing goals:

→ Type up the **first draft** of your Self-Advocacy letter.

→ Use the editing tips to **review and revise** your writing.

→ Type up your **final draft and format it as a letter**. **Consider including a border for visual appeal.*