

Homework: The First Two Paragraphs | Due Date: 11/2/2025

Goal: The goal of this assignment is to practice building the first two layers of our 5-paragraph essay "hamburger": the Introduction (Top Bun) and Body Paragraph 1 (First Topping).

Your Prompt: Use the essay topic and outline we discussed in class today. You will be writing about a Character (e.g., Cinderella, The Big Bad Wolf, Superman, Dug, etc.) and a trait they have (Kind, humble, strong, determined, smart, et).

Part 1: The Introduction (3-5 Sentences Total)

The Introduction acts as the "map" for your entire essay. It starts broadly and ends specifically.

Drafting Steps:

1. **Hook (1-2 sentences):** Start with an engaging sentence that grabs the reader's attention and relates to the general topic (e.g., the importance of character traits, famous fairy tale heroes).
2. **Context/Background (1 sentence):** Identify the character and the story.
3. **Thesis Statement (1 sentence):** This is the most important sentence. It must clearly state your claim (the trait) and list your three main reasons (the topics for your three body paragraphs).

_____ **Introduction Layer** | _____ **Your Draft**

Hook**Context****Thesis Statement****Part 2: Body Paragraph 1 (4-6 Sentences Total)**

This paragraph develops and proves your first reason listed in your Thesis Statement.

Drafting Steps:

1. **Topic Sentence (1 sentence):** Start with a transition phrase (e.g., First, To begin, etc.) and state the first main idea/reason from your thesis. This acts as the paragraph's claim.
2. **Evidence (1-2 sentences):** Provide a specific detail, quote, or example from the story that proves your Topic Sentence.
3. **Explanation/Warrant (2-3 sentences):** Explain how your evidence proves your Topic Sentence. What does this detail show the reader about the character trait?

_____ **Body 1 Layer** | _____ **Your Draft**

Topic Sentence**Evidence (Story Detail)****Explanation (The "So What?")****Student Checklist**

- I have completed this assignment and checked my work:
- My Introduction contains a Hook, Context, and a Thesis Statement.
- My Thesis Statement is only one sentence and lists three distinct reasons I will prove in the essay.
- My Body Paragraph 1 starts with a Topic Sentence that uses a transition word.
- My Evidence is a specific detail from the text/media.
- My Explanation clearly connects the evidence back to the character trait mentioned in the Topic Sentence.