**Components of a Well-Written Essay**

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| **Introduction**  (“The Head” / “Top Bun”)   * Very general **summary/overview** of what you will write about in your essay. * Contains the **thesis statement/central idea/hypothesis/claim** of your essay, which is the **main idea** of your whole essay. * If you’re writing about a text, you should include the **title, author**, and **genre** of the text * Often has an **attention-grabbing sentence/hook** as the first sentence, which draws the reader in and makes the reader want to read MORE. It often has a quote, asks a question, and/or is very interesting. * Has **no or** **very few details** and examples. * Sometimes gives a **background** (history) of the topic and/or a different opinion. * Can **list all the topic sentences** (partial or full)of all body paragraphs (optional). |

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| **Body Paragraph #1**  (**“**The Meat”)   * Gives all the important information of the essay (the “meat”). * Has a **topic sentence** that states the main idea (usually the first/second sentence). * Has **supporting sentences** including **details, examples, evidence,** and **quotes** that explain and support the topic sentence. * All of the sentences are about **only one topic** (the topic sentence). * *Can* contain a **concluding sentence** that closes and summarizes the paragraph. |

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| **Body Paragraph #2**  (“The Meat”)   * Same as Body Paragraph #1 but about a **different topic**. . . |

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| **Body Paragraph #3**  (“The Meat”)   * Same as Body Paragraph #1 but about a **different topic**. . . |

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| **Conclusion**  (“The Feet” / “The Bottom Bun”)   * **Restates** the **thesis statement/central-main idea/hypothesis/claim** in different words. * More specific **summary/overview** of what you just wrote about, “wraps things up” in **different words** than the introduction. * Has **no or** **very few details** and examples (just like the introduction). * Includes general **final comments, suggestions, opinions,** and/**or predictions.** |