
You can “ACE” it !



A step by step guide to using the ACE formula.



Brushton-Moira Central School

1. Complete the graphic organizer provided

- a. Read the question.
- b. Circle and underline the important terms and verbs in the question.
- c. Rewrite the question in your own words.
- d. Actively read the passage. (Highlight, Underline, Make Notes)
- e. Write your thesis statement. (Use your rewritten question for guidance.)
- f. Complete the ACE boxes (Answer, Cite, Explain) for each paragraph.
- g. Write a conclusion.

Name: _____ Date: _____

Question: _____

Circle and Underline → Circle the direction verbs and underline the important information in the question.

Actively Read → Rewrite the question in your own words Active reading

Rewrite question → Thesis Statement:

Answer the question
Cite evidence from text
Expand, extend, explain your answer

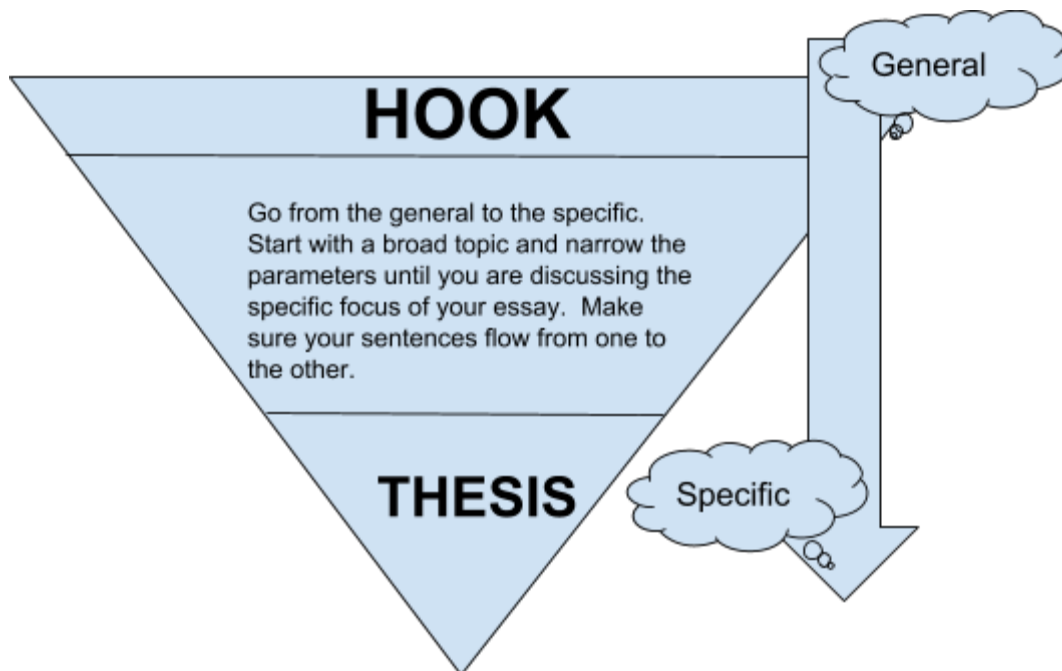
Thesis →

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ACE → **Conclusion** → Conclusion:

2. Now you are ready to write!

Introductory Paragraph:



Your introduction should do three things. (1) Get the reader's attention, (2) discuss the general topic your essay will address (multiple sentences), and (3) state your thesis.

Once you have the reader's attention (the hook), gradually move toward your thesis by discussing the broader topic (the bridge) to which your essay relates. The final sentence of your introduction should be your thesis statement. Your thesis conveys the essence or point of your essay. It is a single sentence stating your argument.

Introduction Sample: (4 or more sentences)

Hook: During the Civil Rights Movement, African-Americans were fighting for equality.

General Information (the bridge): Melba Beals fought to integrate a school in Little Rock, Arkansas. Bayard Rustin sat at the front of a bus and refused to move. Both of these brave individuals dared to go against Jim Crow Laws in the south.

Thesis: Even though they were fighting at different times, they both reacted the same way when they were confronted with racism.

“ACE” Body Paragraphs- (Repeat for each paragraph you write)

***A-** Answer the question. (This sentence will indicate what the paragraph is going to be about)*

***Sample:** One way that Melba Beals and Bayard Rustin reacted in a similar way is neither one of them fought back against their aggressors.*

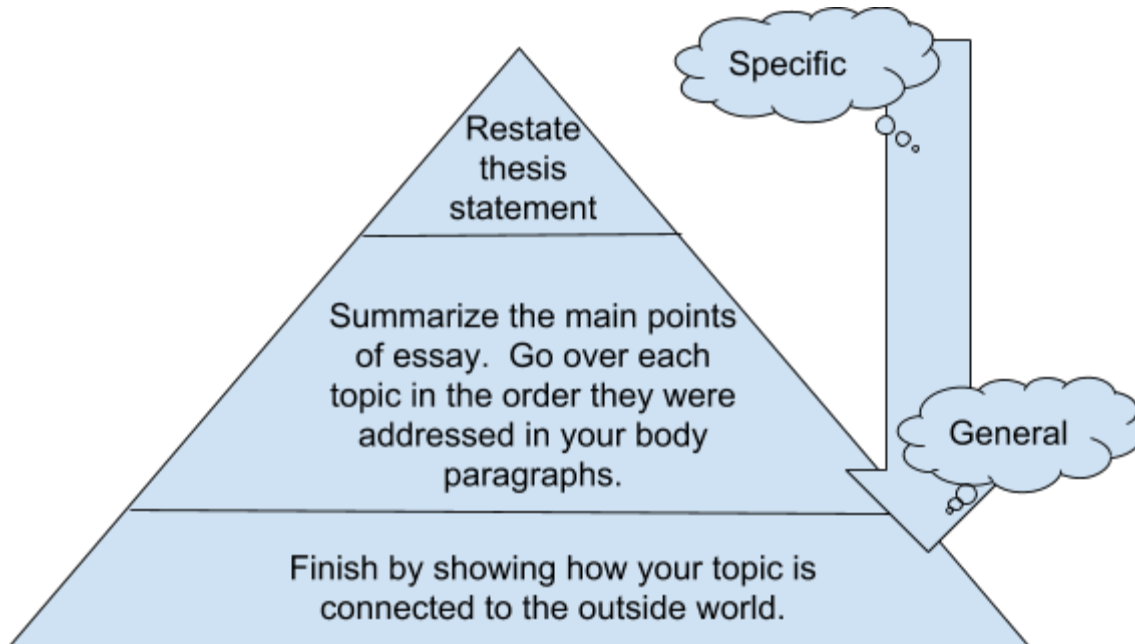
***C-** Cite your evidence. Backup your answer with a specific point of evidence from the text. This can be a direct quote or paraphrased information from the text.*

***Sample:** “...there is no need to do that. I do not wish to fight”(Rustin).*

***E-** Explain, Expand, and Extend your point. Present your point and provide evidence to support it. Use specific references to the text. Include a transition sentence to lead into the next paragraph.*

***Sample:** Rustin didn't want the white man who was attempting to protect him to be injured. Even though he was beaten, he didn't fight back because the police would think he was resisting and beat him more. While in the station, the police shoved him around when he walked down the hall, but he didn't resist them.*

Conclusion Paragraph:



Conclusion Sample:

Restatement: *Even though Beals and Rustin were fighting at different times, they both reacted the same way when confronted with racism.*

General Information: *During the Civil Rights Movement, African-Americans were fighting for equality. Melba Beals was fighting to integrate a school in Little Rock, Arkansas. Bayard Rustin sat at the front of a bus and refused to move. Both of these brave individuals dared to go against Jim Crow Laws in the South.*

Connection: *Many minority groups continue to fight for equality today.*

Citations:

Parenthetical citation:

"...there is no need to do that. I do not wish to fight" (Rustin).

Quotations

Author name

Punctuation (at the end)