Imagine for a moment that there is a waitress in a restaurant. She approaches a customer and takes their order. The customer asks for a double cheeseburger with lettuce, onion and tomato. After a few minutes, the waitress returns to the customer and hands the customer a slice of pizza. The customer is furious! “I asked for a double cheeseburger with lettuce, onion and tomato - you brought me pizza!” The waitress smiles, “I know. I don’t like double cheeseburgers with lettuce, onion and tomato.”

Now, obviously, this story is ridiculous. No waitress in the history of the world would act like this. Yet, in essay writing, this happens too often. The essay writer writes an essay, but the essay does not answer the question. In other words, the essay is requesting you to speak of a double cheeseburger with lettuce, onion and tomato and you, the writer, writes and essay about pizza! So, in order to avoid an embarrassing situation, let us learn how to write the essay we are asked to write.

THE DOUBLE CHEESEBURGER METHOD OF ESSAY WRITING

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TOP BUN!
The introduction is like the bun or the bread of the burger. It’s not the meat. It doesn’t answer the question but it’s kind of like a container for the facts. It’s something for the reader to hold on to.

An introduction doesn’t answer the question. It just introduces the essay’s theme and what you are going to write about. It’s kind of like a map to the essay. It helps the reader understand what they will be reading about.

Let the reader know what will be addressed in the essay and why this theme is important. Avoid referring to yourself or the reader. Stick to the topic.

MEAT & Fixings (MINIMUM of 2 Paragraphs)
Each paragraph is the meat! The meat is where it is at! Each paragraph will discuss a single controlling idea that answers/relates to the task. Each idea will need to be reinforced with details (Fixings: lettuce, onion, tomato) and background knowledge.

BOTTOM BUN!
You just need a conclusion or another bun to hold the facts. Remember, a conclusion is like an introduction. It summarizes the essay’s theme. However, unlike an introduction, a conclusion can be a bit more exciting. Maybe you have an opinion about the topic that would be appropriate to share, or maybe you want to be a bit dramatic. The conclusion also contains the last words of the essay. So, it is important to make it clear to the reader what was the most important information in the essay.
But before I go, tell me the top ten tricks you learned about essay writing today that will help you in the future. A good waitress always loves feedback.

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