



TestingMom.com

INVOLVED PARENTS. SUCCESSFUL KIDS.



Thank you for joining today's writing workshop!

When we are
finished, you will
know exactly how
to write a short
essay no matter
what ...
IF YOU PRACTICE!



Writing model will work for:

- **Opinion/persuasion essay**
 - Provide evidence or reasons to prove or support your point
- **Informative essay**
 - Explain and inform – teach the reader something
- **Essay questions on tests**
- **Some creative essays**

Session 1

- Personal Opinion/persuasion essay

Session 2

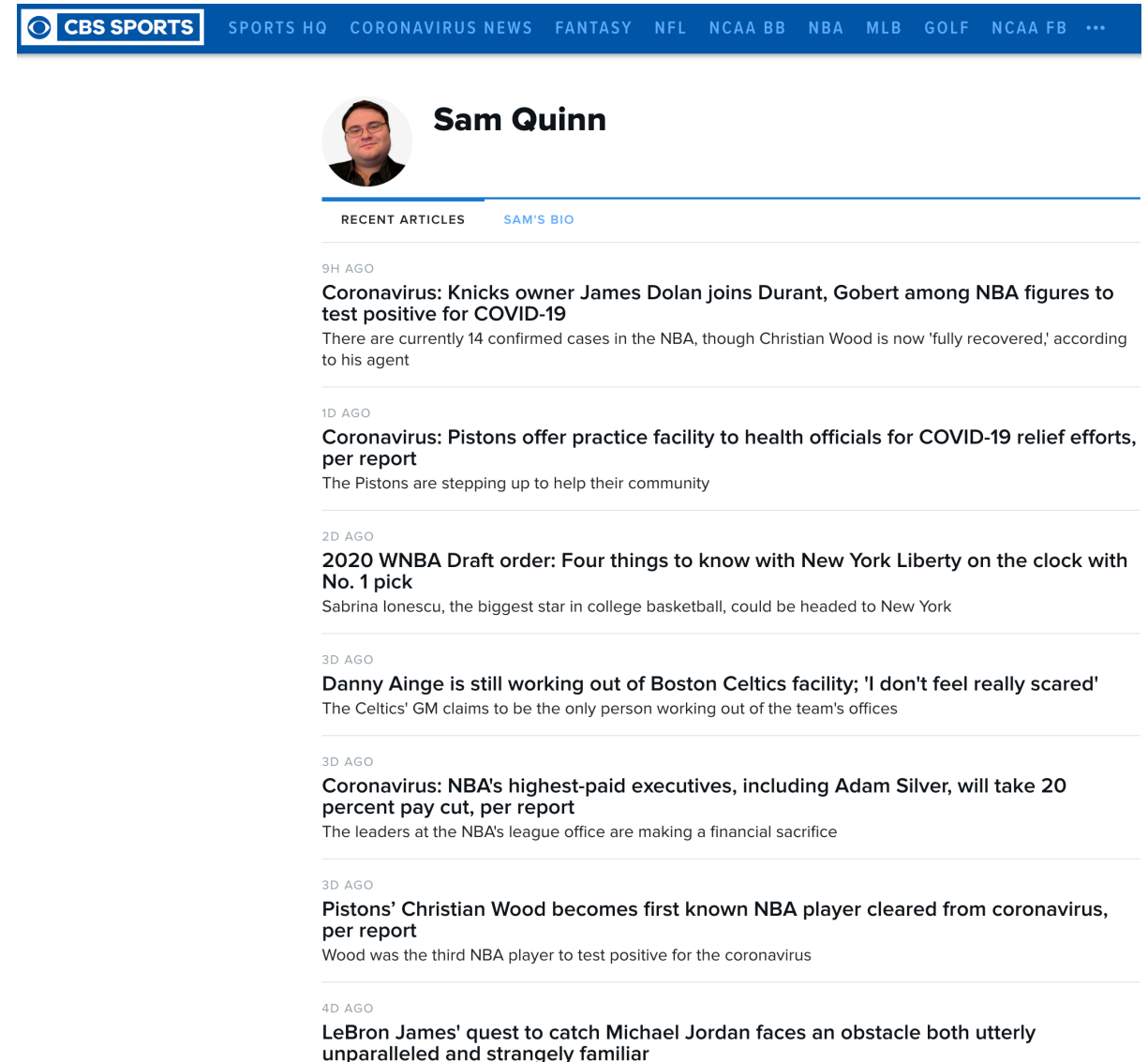
- Opinion/persuasion essay that cites evidence

Session 3

- Opinion/persuasion essay that cites evidence
- More complex essays
- Checklists to help you write


Why Learn to Write?

- School
- Tests
- College applications
- Personal expression
- Jobs
- Thinking – arguing
- You’ll do it your whole life!



The screenshot shows a CBS Sports website interface. At the top is a blue navigation bar with the CBS Sports logo and links for Sports HQ, Coronavirus News, Fantasy, NFL, NCAA BB, NBA, MLB, Golf, and NCAA FB. Below the navigation bar is a profile section for Sam Quinn, featuring a circular profile picture and his name. Underneath the profile are two tabs: 'RECENT ARTICLES' and 'SAM'S BIO'. The 'RECENT ARTICLES' tab is active, displaying a list of seven articles. Each article entry includes a timestamp (e.g., '9H AGO'), a bolded headline, and a short introductory paragraph. The articles cover topics such as James Dolan testing positive for COVID-19, the Pistons offering a practice facility, the 2020 WNBA Draft order, Danny Ainge working out of the Boston Celtics facility, NBA executives taking pay cuts, Christian Wood being cleared of coronavirus, and LeBron James' quest to catch Michael Jordan.

CBS SPORTS SPORTS HQ CORONAVIRUS NEWS FANTASY NFL NCAA BB NBA MLB GOLF NCAA FB ...

 **Sam Quinn**

RECENT ARTICLES SAM'S BIO

9H AGO
Coronavirus: Knicks owner James Dolan joins Durant, Gobert among NBA figures to test positive for COVID-19
There are currently 14 confirmed cases in the NBA, though Christian Wood is now 'fully recovered,' according to his agent

1D AGO
Coronavirus: Pistons offer practice facility to health officials for COVID-19 relief efforts, per report
The Pistons are stepping up to help their community

2D AGO
2020 WNBA Draft order: Four things to know with New York Liberty on the clock with No. 1 pick
Sabrina Ionescu, the biggest star in college basketball, could be headed to New York

3D AGO
Danny Ainge is still working out of Boston Celtics facility; 'I don't feel really scared'
The Celtics' GM claims to be the only person working out of the team's offices

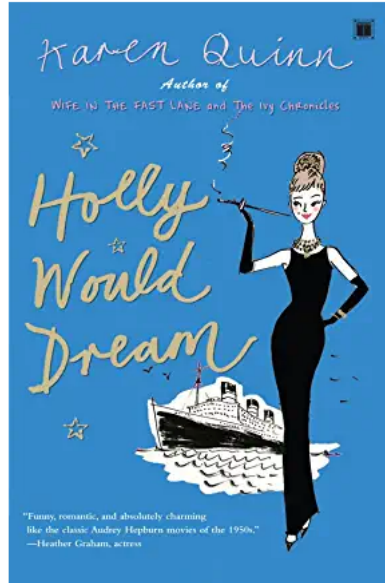
3D AGO
Coronavirus: NBA's highest-paid executives, including Adam Silver, will take 20 percent pay cut, per report
The leaders at the NBA's league office are making a financial sacrifice

3D AGO
Pistons' Christian Wood becomes first known NBA player cleared from coronavirus, per report
Wood was the third NBA player to test positive for the coronavirus

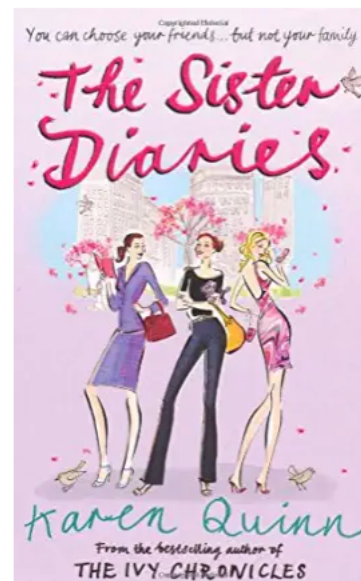
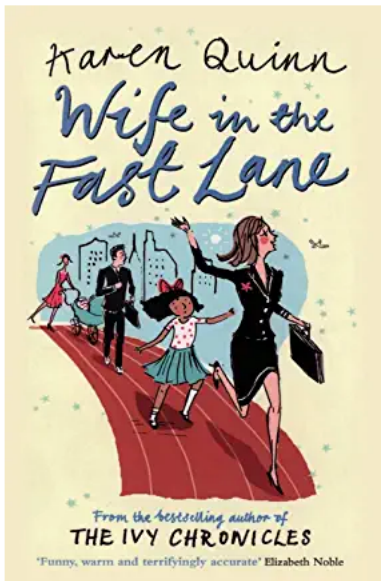
4D AGO
LeBron James' quest to catch Michael Jordan faces an obstacle both utterly unparalleled and strangely familiar

The Magic Way to Becoming a Good Writer is to...

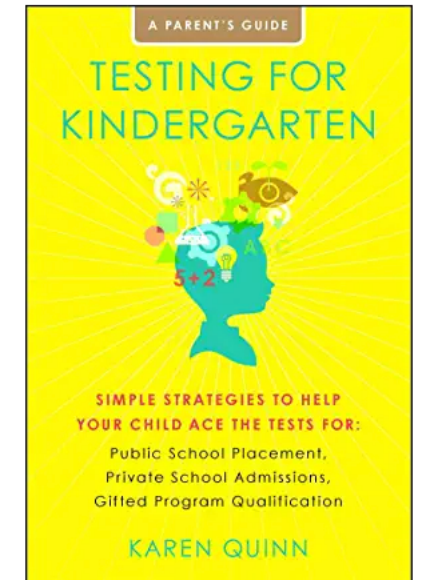
- VOCABULARY
- SENTENCE STRUCTURE
- PARAGRAPH STRUCTURE
- GOOD WRITING



READ A LOT



THAT'S HOW I BECAME A WRITER!



To Write the Short Essay, Remember 1 Acronym*...

R
A
C
E
S



*Acronym – a series of initials that stands for something else – often used in studying/school to help you remember something important.

Restate the question (topic sentence)

 **A**nswer the question

 **C**ite evidence or details to support your answer

Explain why the evidence or details support to your answer

Sum it up (conclusion)

Restate/Answer the Question + Sum it Up

Writing Prompts From Teacher

- Write about something you would like to do to become a healthier person. Describe the plan you would follow to make that happen.



R/A Topic Sentence

- To become healthier, I would like to eat better than I do today by adding more fruit and vegetables into my diet.



(Middle of Essay)
C/E Goes Here

S Sum It Up

- **In summary**, by adding more fruits and vegetables to my diet, I will be well on my way to becoming a healthier person.

- What is the best advice you ever received and how did it help you?



- When my mother told me, “be yourself, everyone else is taken,” that made me a happier person.



- **In closing**, once my mother told me to “be yourself,” I stopped trying to turn myself into someone I wasn’t just to please others, and that made me a happier person.

Restate/Answer the Question + Sum it Up

Writing Prompts From Teacher

- If you could live anywhere in the world, where would you live and why?
- If you won a million dollars, what would you choose to do with it?
- If you could be famous for something, what would it be and why?



R/A Topic Sentence

- If I could live anywhere in the world, I would live in Milan, Italy because that is the fashion capital of the world and I want to be a fashion designer.
- If I won a million dollars, I would choose to spend the money to help educate children around the world.
- If I could be famous for something, I would like to be a well-known Broadway performer because acting, singing and dancing are my passions.

(Middle of Essay) C/E goes here



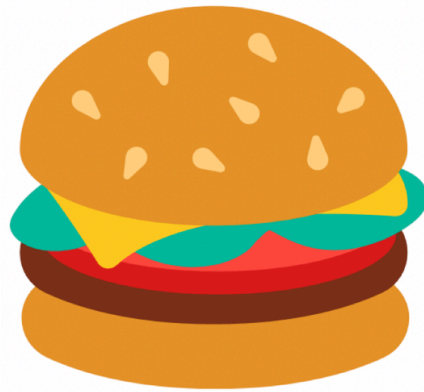
S Sum It Up

- **So as you can see**, Milan, Italy would be the perfect place for me to live so I can pursue my goal of becoming a fashion designer.
- **For these reasons**, I would spend my million-dollar lottery winnings to help educate children all over the planet!
- **In conclusion**, becoming a famous Broadway performer would be my dream come true because it would allow me to do my favorite thing every night: sing, dance and act!

Essay Question: What is the best food in the world to eat and why?

1) Brainstorm

- “What’s the best food to eat?”
 - Ice cream sundae, pizza, hamburger, fried chicken, ice cream cone
- “I’ll go with a hamburger!”
- “Why is that the best food to eat?”
 - You can **choose the patty** – meat, fish or vegetarian
 - Add **toppings** – changes temperature/texture
 - **Cheese** – great flavor addition
 - A **perfect combination** of ingredients
 - Best when **fresh off the grill**
 - Can add bacon, avocado, onions, etc.



2) Outline

- A. A burger because it’s the perfect combination of ingredients.
 - I. Choose your favorite patty – meat, fish, vegetarian
 - II. Toppings for texture, temperature, flavor
 - III. Melted cheese – intensify the flavor.
- B. Sum it up – end with 1 sentence that concludes the essay and neatly ties together everything I just said.

Tip: Brainstorming gives you more to say than you probably need; choose the points you think are most important.

What is the best food in the world to eat and why?

R.A.C.E.S – Restate/Answer, Cite/Explain x 3 + Sum it up

A hamburger is the best food in the world to eat because it is the perfect combination of ingredients.

It starts with a hot, juicy burger patty fresh off the grill. You can choose a meat, fish or a vegetarian patty, whichever you like best, to make it taste just right!

Adding cold lettuce, tomato, and onion toppings cools the sandwich and gives it good texture.

Putting a piece of melted cheese on top intensifies the flavor of the overall sandwich.

As you can see, when you combine a soft bun with a grilled patty, vegetable toppings and cheese, you have created the best food in the world.



Sum it up (the bun on top)

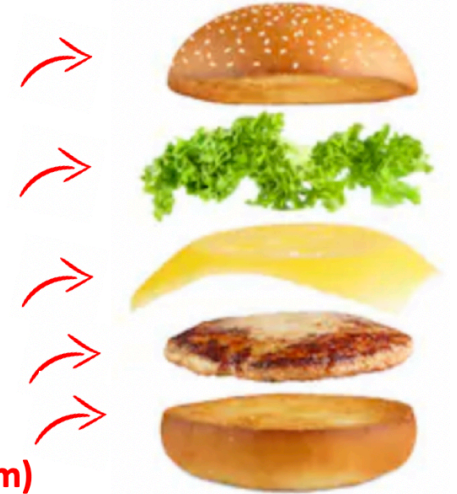
C / E - Cite Detail or Evidence / Explain or Expand (lettuce)

C / E - Cite Detail or Evidence / Explain or Expand (cheese)

C / E - Cite Detail or Evidence / Explain or Expand (burger)

R / A – Restate / Answer (Foundation)

Topic Sentence / Main Idea (bun on bottom)



R/A A hamburger is the best food in the world to eat because it is the perfect combination of ingredients.

C/E It starts with a hot, juicy burger patty fresh off the grill. You can choose a meat, fish or a vegetarian patty, whichever you like best, to make it taste just right!

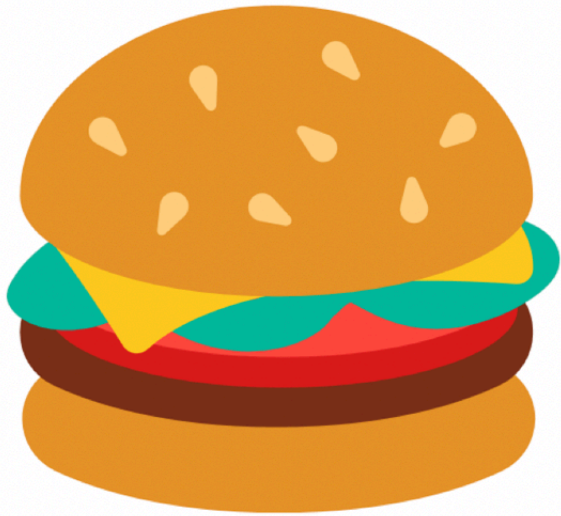
C/E Adding cold lettuce, tomato, and onion toppings cools the sandwich and gives it good texture.

C/E Putting a piece of melted cheese on top intensifies the flavor of the overall sandwich.

S As you can see, when you combine a soft bun with a grilled patty, vegetable toppings and cheese, you have created the best food in the world.

Imagine Burger R.A.C.E.S When Writing Essays

Your Short-Essay Model



→ Sum it up

} Cite/Explain
x 3

→ Restate/Answer



Sum it up (the bun on top)

C / E - Cite Detail or Evidence / Explain or Expand (lettuce)

C / E - Cite Detail or Evidence / Explain or Expand (cheese)

C / E - Cite Detail or Evidence / Explain or Expand (burger)

R / A - Restate / Answer (Foundation)
Topic Sentence / Main Idea (bun on bottom)



Essay Question: What is the best food in the world to eat and why?

1) Brainstorm

- “What’s the best food to eat?”
 - Ice cream sundae, pizza, hamburger, fried chicken, ice cream cone
- “I’ll go with an ice cream sundae in a cone!”
- “Why is that the best food to eat?”
 - You can **choose your favorite flavors**
 - Add **hot chocolate to melt** the cold ice cream
 - **Different textures and temperatures**
 - **Crunchy cone**, smooth ice cream, liquid sauce
 - Whipped cream is all airy
 - Love sprinkles, colorful and fun
 - A **perfect combination** of ingredients

Tip: Brainstorming gives you more to say than you probably need; choose the points you think are most important.



2) Outline

- A. An ice cream sundae in a cone because it’s the perfect combination of ingredients.
 - I. Choose your favorite flavor – makes treat special.
 - II. Hot sauce – melts ice cream and makes it taste better.
 - III. Whipped cream/cherry – creates the best combination of tastes, textures, temperatures.
- B. Sum it up – end with 1 sentence that concludes the essay and neatly ties together everything I just said.

What is the best food in the world to eat and why?

R.A.C.E.S – Restate/Answer, Cite/Explain x 3, Sum it up



- Sum it up (the cherry on top)
- C / E - Cite Detail or Evidence / Explain or Expand (whipped cream)
- C / E - Cite Detail or Evidence / Explain or Expand (toppings / sauce)
- C / E - Cite Detail or Evidence / Explain or Expand (ice cream)
- R / A – Restate / Answer (Foundation)
Topic Sentence / Main Idea (cone or bowl)



3) Write

An ice cream sundae cone is the best food in the world to eat because it is the perfect combination of ingredients.

It starts with frozen ice cream. You can choose your favorite flavors to make the treat taste extra special to you.

Then you add hot chocolate sauce, which melts the ice cream and enhances the flavor.

Putting whipped cream and a cherry on top gives it the perfect mix of flavors, textures and temperatures.

In conclusion, when you combine a crunchy cone with ice cream, toppings, whipped cream and a cherry on top, you have created the best food in the world.

R/A An ice cream sundae cone is the best food in the world to eat because it is the perfect combination of ingredients.

C/E It starts with frozen ice cream. You can choose your favorite flavors to make the treat taste extra special to you.

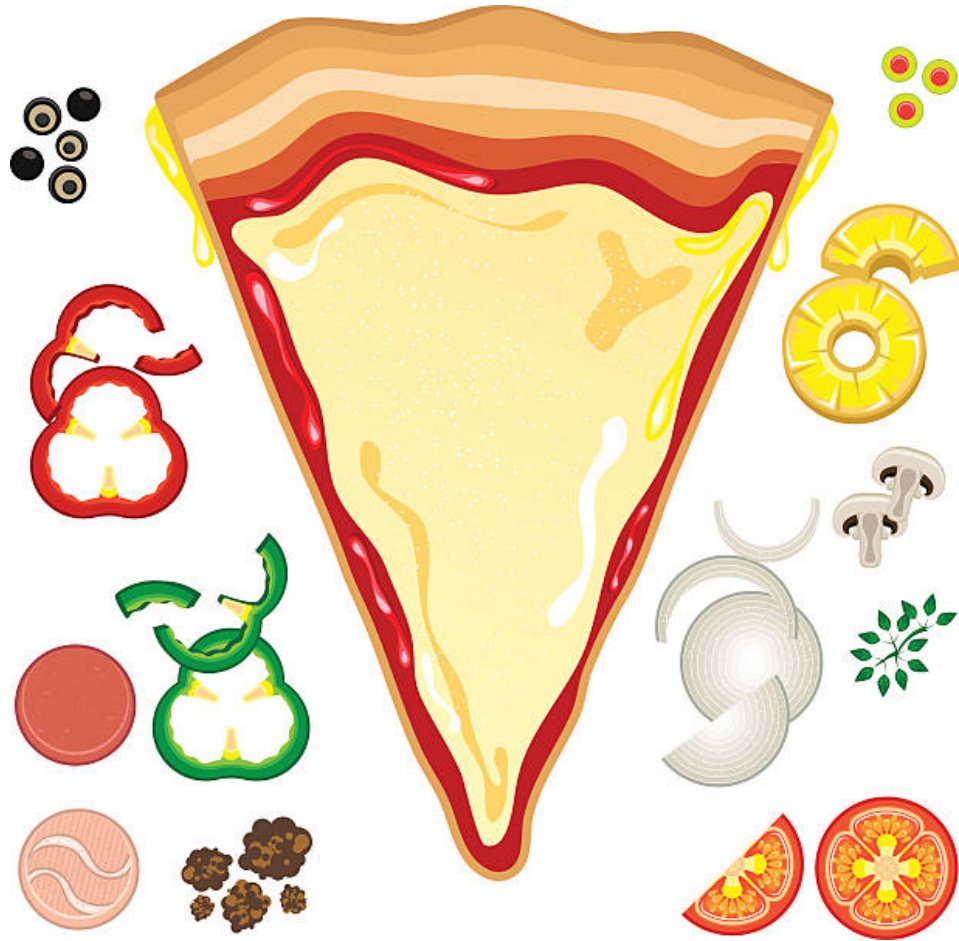
C/E Then you add hot chocolate sauce, which melts the ice cream and enhances the flavor.

C/E Putting whipped cream and a cherry on top gives it the perfect mix of flavors, textures and temperatures.

In conclusion, when you combine a crunchy cone with ice cream, toppings, whipped cream and a cherry on top, you have created the best food in the world.

What is the best food in the world to eat and why? (Optional)

R.A.C.E – Restate/Answer, Cite/Explain x 3 + Sum it up

A blank sheet of lined paper with a red margin line on the left side. The paper has horizontal blue lines and is intended for writing an essay.

Try writing an essay using pizza as your "best" food!

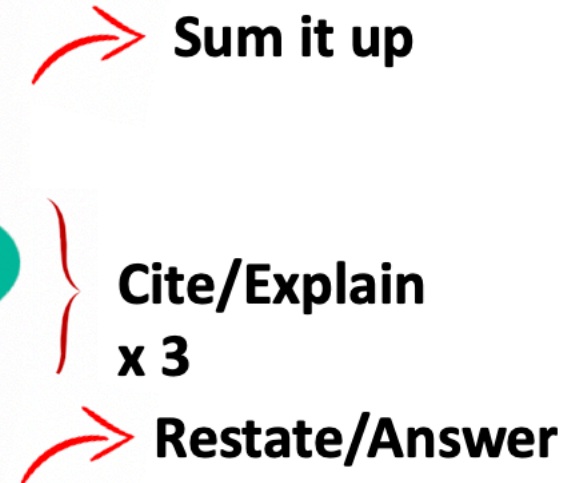
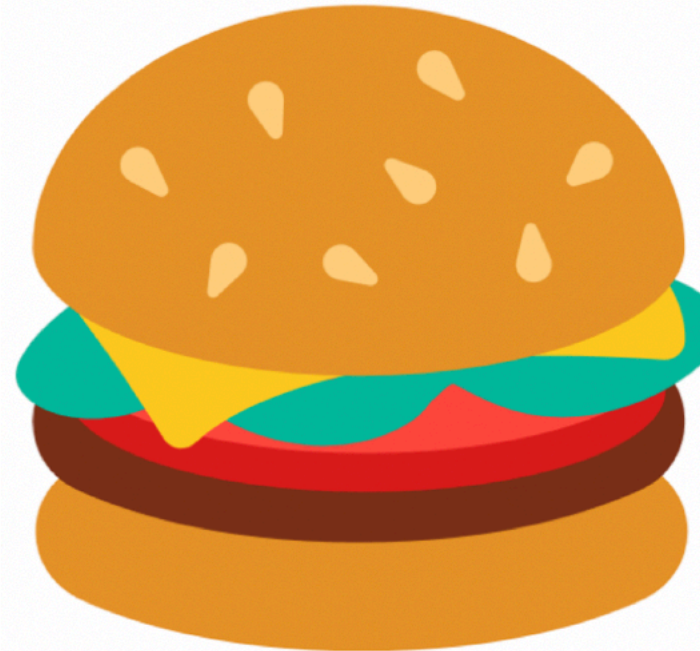
Your Assignment (Optional)

Your “Personal Expression” Assignment:

Write a short essay that uses the R.A.C.E.S. formula and answers any **ONE** of these questions:

- 1) What is the biggest way the Coronavirus is impacting your life today, and how are you dealing with it?
- 2) If you could invent something to help with the Coronavirus crisis, what would you invent and why?
- 3) If a magic genie could grant you one wish, and that wish would absolutely come true, what would your wish be, and why?
- 4) What person has influenced you the most in life, and why?

Use the R.A.C.E.S. formula to write your essay:



What is the biggest way the Coronavirus is impacting your life today, and how are you dealing with it? (you can pick 1 impact and 3 ways of dealing with it, or 3 impacts and how you are dealing with each 1)

Brainstorm:

- Stay inside
- Limited outdoor activity
- No school – work at home
- My mom is a doctor, so I know a lot more about it than others
- Researching topic of interest
- Not able to see friends and no siblings
- E-learning on computers - takes getting used to
- Social distancing
- Tension at home
- Practice team sport without mates
- Stuck at home except walks
- Miss my friends
- Fear / uncertainty
- Hand sanitizer
- Celebrate birthday at home – can't be with friends
- Too much screen time
- Can't see loved ones
- Wearing masks
- Hard to shop – things aren't available
- Fun bike rides with family
- No museums or group places
- Family game night
- Missing favorite foods
- Got bad food with online shopping
- Canceling spring break – extra school
- Family member is sick

Outline:

The Coronavirus has changed life as I knew it in every way – family dynamics, social life, and school.

1. At my house, we are stuck in a small space so we are fighting more. But also we are having game night and taking bike rides together.
2. We're social distancing so I can't see my friends. Today is my birthday and I'm missing my party. I can't do sports with my teammates. Can't see my loved ones.
3. School is out. I'm having to learn at home on a computer. Too much screen time. Harder to learn without teacher.

Conclusion – tie together all my points.

Write (use R.A.C.E.S. Model):

The Coronavirus has changed life as I knew it in every way – my family dynamics, social life, and school is completely different.

Our family is stuck in a small house with little room, so we're bickering with each other more than we used to. On the other hand, I have more time to spend with my family so we are taking bike rides together and having family game night.

Because of social distancing, I can't see my friends or do my team sports. Today is my birthday, and we had to cancel my party. However, we are having a zoom party instead.

School is closed and that has been hard. I now have to learn on my computer and I'm getting tired of that! It's harder to learn without my teacher.

In conclusion, the Coronavirus has changed my whole life. I cannot wait until my family life, social life and school life are back to the way they used to be.

- 1) Send your essay to**
Karen@Testingmom.com
– Subject: My Essay
(Include your name and grade level)
This is optional! Write it by hand and take a picture, or type it!
- 2) Next Week:** Opinion/persuasion essay that cites evidence from an external source (a source other than yourself)

