













Breakdown of a sample paragraph

The paragraph:

Michael Schlotzky is a horrible student. First, Mr. Schlotzky is stupid. According to the tests, Michael has a negative IQ. Second, the young man is irresponsible. Mrs. Nicey, Michael's homeroom teacher, reports that Mr. Schlotzky started smoking and drinking in class. Finally, this truant never does his homework, and he is always late for class. This semester, Mr. Schlotzky has missed 36 classes of 40 and submitted no home assignments. Consequently, Mr. Schlotzky is one of the worst students in Crochet High School because Michael lacks intelligence and responsibility, coming late for classes and doing no home tasks.

Paragraph part	Burger part	Sample
Paragraph head		Michael Schlotzky is a horrible student.
Transition		First,
Supporting sentence 1		Mr. Schlotzky is stupid.
Giving details (a fact)		According to the tests, Michael has a negative IQ.
Transition		Second,
Supporting sentence 2		the young man is irresponsible.
Giving details (an expert's opinion)		Mrs. Nicey, Michael's homeroom teacher, reports that Mr. Schlotzky started smoking and drinking in class.
Transition		Finally,
Supporting sentence 3		this truant never does his homework, and he is always late for class.
Giving details (statistics)		This semester, Mr. Schlotzky has missed 36 classes of 40 and submitted no home assignments.
Transition		Consequently,
Concluding sentence		Mr. Schlotzky is one of the worst students in Crochet High School because Michael lacks intelligence and responsibility, coming late for classes and doing no home tasks.