Dissecting the G-Method of Thesis Paragraph Development

Sample Inquiry

Is McDonald's quick, all-American restaurant chain a good place to eat dinner regularly?

Sample Thesis Paragraph (for a 5-6 paragraph response):

Since McDonald's opened its first restaurant in the 1950's, it has taken the world by storm. They have served billions of meals all around the world and have become a major force in the restaurant business. While the food is served quickly and cheaply, McDonald's includes generally unhealthy food on its menu, has poor customer service, and uncomfortable dining areas. In the end, McDonald's may NOT be the best choice for diners to make when contemplating regular dinner options.



Now the dissection!

1) Context

Let the reader know: What is the topic? What is the controversy at hand? What time period or figures or ideas matter? Usually these are irrefutable facts. This sometimes take up to 2-3 sentences or more, but try to keep it brief.

Since McDonald's opened its first restaurant in the 1950's, it has taken the world by storm. They have served billions of meals all around the world and have become a major force in the restaurant business.

2) Counter-claims

This lets the reader know you considered other point of view but are sticking to your argument. It is very persuasive to show how open-minded you are when you approach your argument. Sometimes this doesn't even take one sentence to accomplish.

While the food is served quickly and cheaply,

3) Claims (or List) – How are you going to argue?

Use some of your claims here. These are probably going to become the topics of the rest of your essay. They should point the reader toward what you're going to argue.

McDonald's includes generally unhealthy food on its menu, has poor customer service, and uncomfortable dining areas.

4) The Thesis Statement- Does it ATQ? Is it arguable? Can someone disagree with you?

This is the heart of it: your argument. Everything hinges on this throughout the entire essay. Every topic supports it. It should be arguable/debatable and it should answer your line of inquiry. Often wise to include a transition phrase, such as "however," or "furthermore."

In the end, McDonald's may NOT be the best choice for diners to make when contemplating regular dinner options.