

*ITW: Argument
Essay*



Goals

- Focused thesis statement and topic sentences
- Incorporate quotes naturally
- Analyze evidence
- Engaging intro
- Declutter sentences

Writing Goals

Expectations

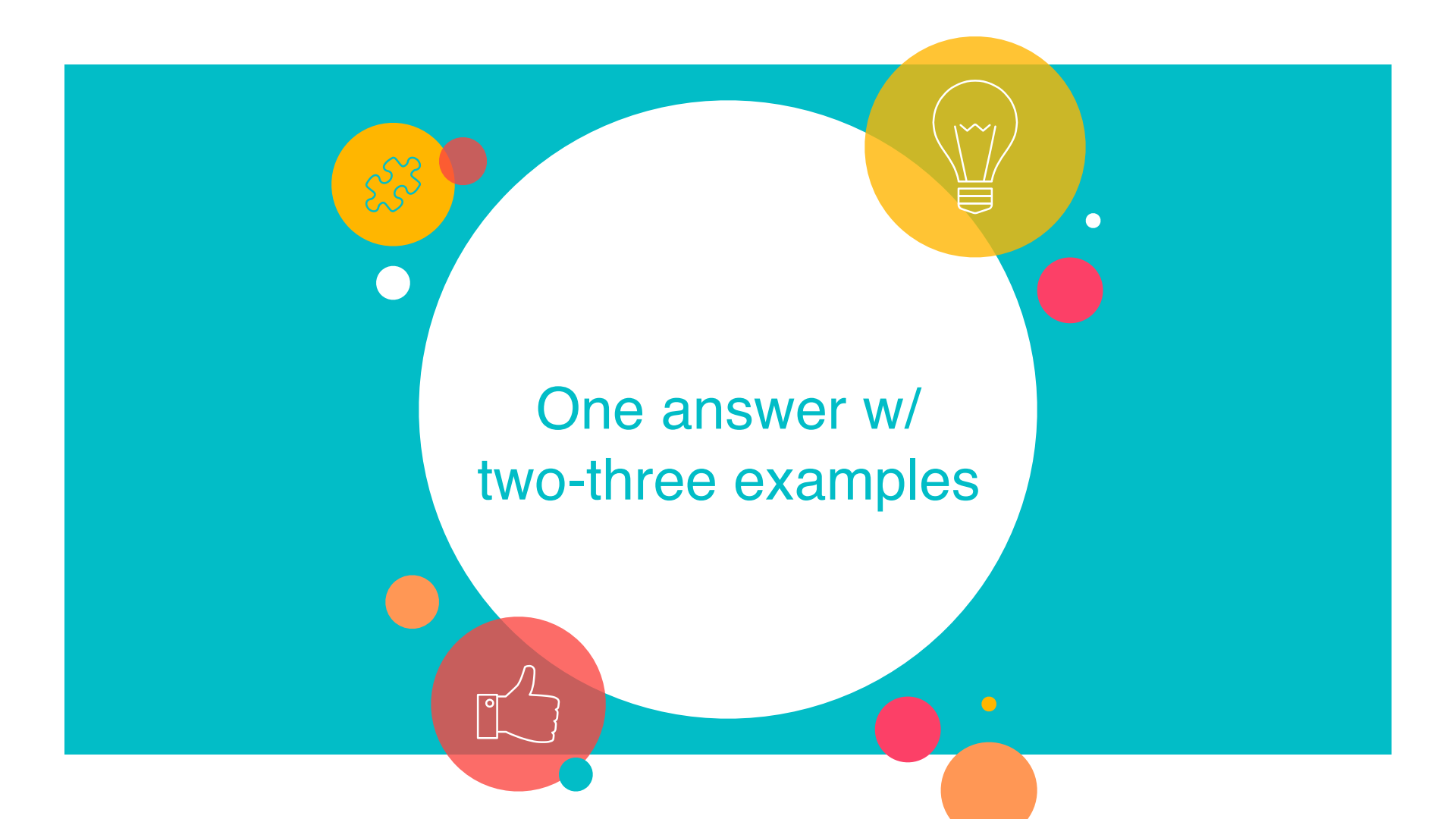
- Develop a claim regarding the question
- Address the opposition
- Analyze evidence
- Cite sources
- Create Works Cited Page
- Organize in sophisticated manner

A Claim

Thesis Grounded in Evidence

- * How should the world remember Chris?
- * Your answer (1-3 answers).





One answer w/
two-three examples



Thesis: Chris McCandless is surely not a model citizen, and he should be remembered as a selfish, immature fool.

Supporting Discussion: His sister

Supporting Discussion: Ronald

- Thesis: No one should revere Chris McCandless because he lives his life according to a selfish philosophy and causes many people around him to suffer as a result.





More than one answer





Thesis: Chris McCandless should be revered, for he lives his life according to an inspiring philosophy and discovers an invaluable truth as a result.

* Supporting Discussion: Chris' philosophy (why it's inspiring) and how he practiced what he preached

OR Two Components of Chris' philosophy:

1. Materialism
2. Rules/Law

* Supporting Discussion: How he discovered an invaluable truth (must prove this)





A
Philosophical
Discussion

Image or
Anecdote

Engaging
Discussion

Rhetorical
Question

Hypophora

A Startling
Fact

A Quote




- Don't ignore the opposition
- Mention it, refute it, or render it insignificant!
- Try to do this at least once





**Address
the
Opposition**





Peter Mason, author of the article “Remembering Christopher McCandless 20 Years Later,” believes that McCandless’ journey is “inspirational,” one that “serves as a lesson that...material goods...are...holding us back from doing what we are truly capable of doing”; although Mason may be right in that McCandless’ perspective regarding materialism is of value, he seems to ignore the fact that McCandless’ general philosophy is one primarily based on self-serving principles that reject human intimacy and forgiveness.



Paragraphs



Topic Sentences

- Begin each paragraph w/ a relevant topic sentence (state your point)

How Many?

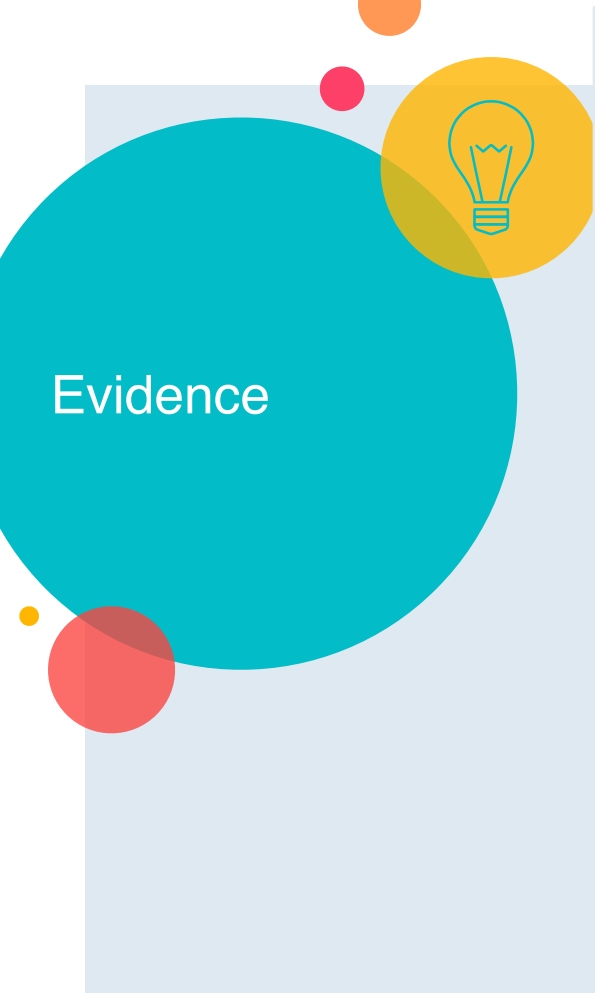
- How many answers?

BP1 — Selfish

BP2 — Reckless

BP3 — Ignorant and Cockey





Evidence

Texts

Prove your
point

Quotes

Paraphrase

Into the Wild

Show

Only what
you need!
Short

Summarize

*The Wild
Truth*

*Writing it
doesn't
make it true*

Include
quotes
naturally

Things Chris
did

The Articles

Vary
evidence

Context

Things Chris
believed



● **Questions you should address:**

- How do Chris's actions match your description?
- Why is the trait on which you are focusing positive, negative?
- Why should we admire or condemn Chris for his actions?
- Why is his behavior dangerous?
- Why do we/don't we want future generations to emulate a particular quality?
- Why, why, why?
- Might have to do research to prove your point or answer the "why"

Analysis — your voice!!! What do you think about all of this?!



Conclusion

- Restate your topic and why it is important
- Restate your thesis/claim
- Address opposing viewpoints and explain why readers should align with your position
- End on a powerful note — show your passion!



Works Cited

Krakauer, Jon. *Into the Wild*. New York: Anchor, 1997. Print.

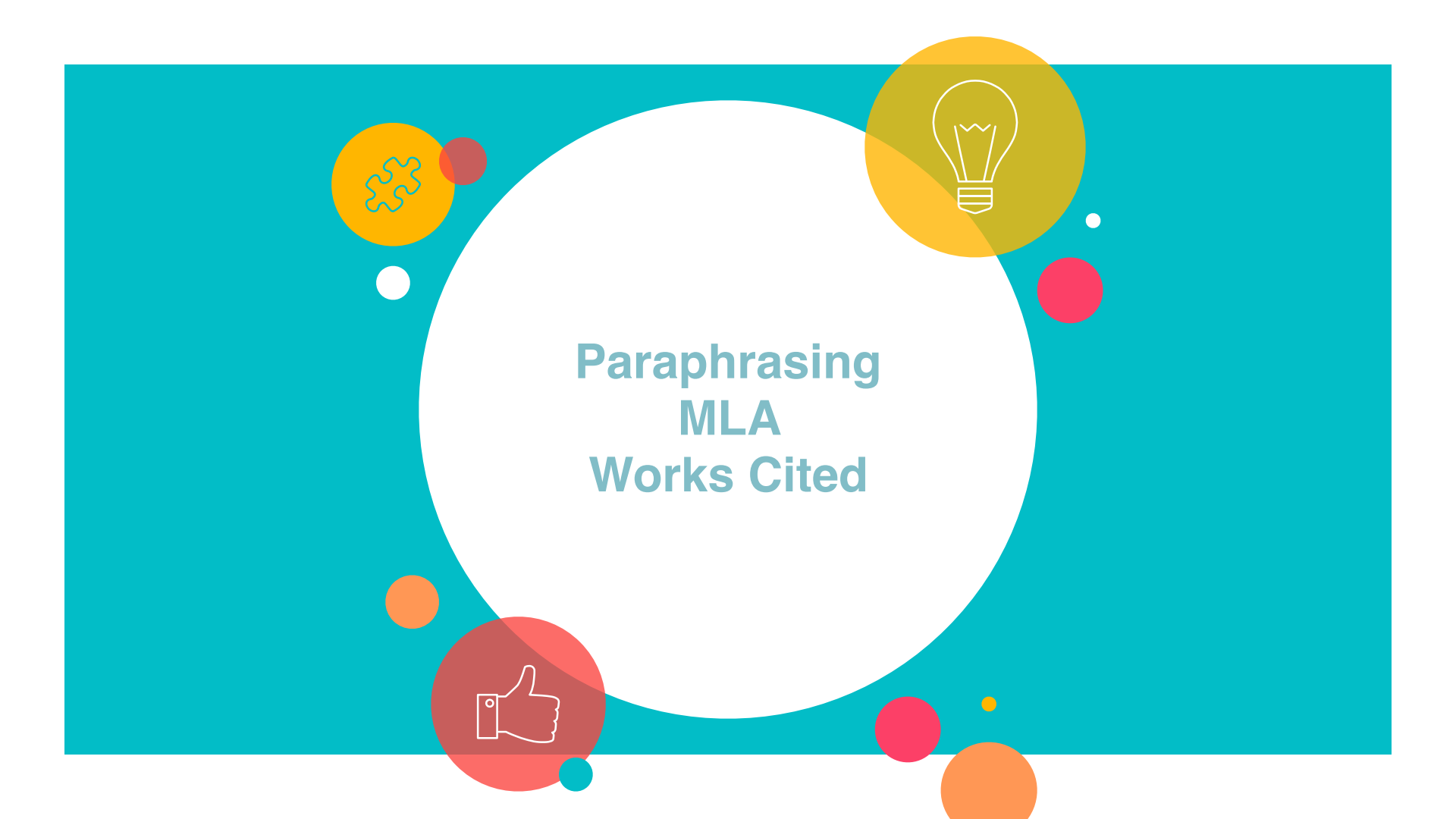
Mason, Pete. "Remembering Christopher McCandless 20 Years Later." *The Huffington Post*.

TheHuffingtonPost.com, 20 Aug. 2012. Web. 27 Jan. 2014.

Medred, Craig. "The Beatification of Chris McCandless: From Thieving Poacher into Saint."

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**Paraphrasing
MLA
Works Cited**