

What did I do?

Context

Specifics

Example... more specific, detailed

Explaining relationship

Specifics to support

Explaining relationship

Describing example further and explaining significance

While doing research on a sample project I developed for another teacher last semester, I found out about a charity that I have since decided to support. The charity is called *Opportunity International*, and the main reason that I have decided to support this charity has to do with the model the charity uses for disbursing the money it collects. The charity doesn't give anything away but instead sets itself up as a bank in third world countries that provides small loans to individuals to help them start a small business. For example a woman will be loaned \$400 (what seems a small amount for us, but an enormous loan for people in the third world) to buy a sewing machine that she will then use in a small business that makes clothing (this example really exists).

There are a number of things that I like about this particular arrangement: the first is that it encourages and supports the development of an economy instead of just providing a band aid solution. The woman who gets the sewing machine gets a mechanism that helps her develop an ongoing, hopefully sustainable business that will support her and her family. This situation encourages the development of a form of economy based on the very real needs and capabilities of the people in the place where the woman received the loan. Another advantage is that because the money that she gets is a loan, others will be able to use it in the future. The money that I have donated to the charity will be available for a number of folks to develop similar small businesses based on the same sort of "real needs and abilities of a local community." So the money not only encourages an autonomous economy based on the knowledge and needs of the local people, it does so on a continuous basis. And finally, the money (this isn't something that is evident at first) is mostly given to women to start businesses. In a lot of countries, woman in particular have an enormous burden in being required to support a family with very limited resources, but at the same time, if they can do so (with a business like this) they tend to support

<p>Conclusion...summarize and expand</p>	<p>a number of family members, including them in the business, so that the benefits of the company are really spread around.</p> <p>So the business model used by Opportunity International is a good one, as it provides ongoing sustained, support that will help develop local economies in an organic manner, which is to say not by someone outside who has decided what's best for those people and at that economy, but instead by the people within that economy, in a way that they chose, in a way that is ongoing and that works for them and that economy.</p>

Key Strategies:

1. Answer the question
2. Provide context (help your reader understand the situation being discussed)
3. Describe specifics that will help you answer the question
4. Explain the relationship between these specifics and your thesis
5. Conclude