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Skip to main content arrow circle down The introduction to an academic essay will generally present an analytical question or problem and then offer an answer to that question (the thesis). Your introduction is also your opportunity to explain to your readers what your essay is about and why they should be interested in reading it. You don't have to
 "hook" your readers with a dramatic promise (every other discussion of the topic you're writing about is completely wrong!) or an exciting fact (the moon can reach 127 degrees Celsius!). Instead, you should use your introduction to explain to your readers why your essay is going to be interesting to read. To do this, you'll need to frame the question
or problem that you're writing about and explain why this question or problem is important. If you make a convincing case for why your question or problem is important. If you make a convincing case for why your question or problem is important. If you make a convincing case for why your question or problem is important. If you make a convincing case for why your question or problem is important. If you make a convincing case for why your question or problem is important.
common elements. You can see these common elements in the sample introductions on this page. In general, your introductions should contain the following elements: Orienting Information When you're writing an essay, it's helpful to think about what your reader needs to know in order to follow your argument. Your introduction should include
enough information so that readers can understand the context for your thesis. For example, if you are analyzing someone else's argument, you will need to identify that argument and possibly summarize its key points. If you are joining a scholarly conversation about education reform, you will need to provide context for this conversation before
explaining what your essay adds to the discussion. But you don't necessarily have to summarize your sources in detail in your introduction; that information to provide, it can be helpful to think about that information in relation to your thesis. You
don't have to tell readers everything they will need to know to understand your entire essay right away. You just need to give them enough information to be able to assume that your audience has also read the sources you are analyzing. But even in those cases, you should
still offer enough information for readers to know which parts of a source you are talking about. When you're writing a paper based on your own research, you will need to provide more context about the sources you're going to discuss. If you're not sure how much you can assume your audience knows, you should consult your instructor. An
explanation of what's at stake in your essay, or why anyone would need to read an essay that argues this thesisYou will know why your essay is worth writing if you are trying to answer; to propose a solution to a problem without one obvious solution; or to point out something that others may not have
noticed that changes the way we consider a phenomenon, source, or idea. In all of these cases, you will be trying to understand something that you know why your essay is worth reading; you also need to explain to your readers why they should care about reading an essay that argues your
thesis. In other words, part of the role of an introduction is to explain to your reader what is at stake in your reader what is at stake in your reader through a shortened version of that process by framing the question or problem that you are trying to answer and
explaining why it's worth exploring. It's not enough to explain why the topic you're writing about matters; rather, you need to explain what your essay adds to that discussion. So, for example, if you were writing an essay about the Supreme Court decision in Dobbs vs. Jackson Women's Health, it wouldn't be enough to say that what's at stake is that
"people care about reproductive rights." That would explain why, in general, someone might want to read about this topic. But your readers need to know why your thesis is worth arguing. Does it challenge an accepted view? Does it present a new way of considering a concept? Does it put the Supreme Court decision into a historical context in a way
that is unusual or surprising? Your thesisThis is what you're arguing in your essay. Tips for writing introductions, just as you would for any other aspect of the essay. For example, while it may be acceptable to write a two-
paragraph (or longer) introduction for your papers in some Government courses, instructors in other disciplines, such as those in some Government courses, may expect a shorter introduction for your papers in some Government courses, may expect a shorter introduction that includes a preview of the argument that will follow. In some disciplines, such as those in some Government, Economics, and others), it's common to offer an overview in the introduction of
what points you will make in your essay. In other disciplines, you will not be expected to provide this overview in your topic. Avoid writing a very general opening sentence. While it may be true that "Since the dawn of time, people have been telling love stories," it won't help you explain what's interesting about your topic. Avoid writing a
"funnel" introduction in which you begin with a very broad statement about a topic and move to a narrow statement about that topic. Broad generalizations about that topic will not add to your readers' understanding of your specific essay topic. Avoid beginning with a dictionary definition of a term or concept you will be writing about. If the concept is
complicated or unfamiliar to your readers, you will need to define it in detail later in your essay. If it's not complicated, you can assume your readers already know the definition. Avoid offering too much detail in your introduction that a reader could better understand later in the paper. Download Article Learn how to hook your readers for an A+
paper Download Article The introduction of your essay serves two important purposes. First, it gets your reader a roadmap of what you're going to say and the overarching point you're going to make - your thesis statement. A powerful
introduction grabs your reader's attention and keeps them reading. When writing an essay introduction, start with a "hook" that'll grab people's heartstrings. Then, relate your hook to a larger topic. 1 Identify your audience. The first sentence or two of your
introduction should pull the reader in. You want anyone reading your essay to be fascinated, intrigued, or even outraged. You can't do this if you don't know who your likely readers are.[1] If you're writing a paper for a class, don't automatically assume your instructor is your audience. If you write directly to your instructor, you'll end up glossing over
some information that is necessary to show that you properly understand the subject of your essay. It can be helpful to reverse-engineer your audience as young women within
the age range most affected by the issue. 2 Use the element of surprise. A startling or shocking statistic can grab your audience's attention by immediately teaching them something new in the first sentence, people will be interested to see where you go next.[2] For this hook to be effective, your fact needs
to be sufficiently surprising. If you're not sure, test it on a few friends. If they react by expressing shock or surprise, you know you're got something good. Use a fact or statistic that sets up your topic is important (or should be
important) to your audience typically make good hooks. Advertisement 3 Tug at your reader emotionally involved in the subject matter of your story. You can do this by describing a related hardship or tragedy.[3] For example, if you were writing an essay
proposing a change to drunk driving laws, you might open with a story of how the life of a victim was changed forever after they were hit by a drunk driving laws, you may have come across an entertaining or interesting anecdote that, while related, didn't really fit into the
body of your essay. Such an anecdote can work great as a hook.[4] For example, if you're writing an essay about a public figure, you might include an anecdote about an odd personal habit that cleverly relates back to your thesis statement. Particularly with less formal papers or personal essays, humorous anecdotes can be particularly effective hooks.
5 Ask a thought-provoking question. If you're writing a persuasive essay, consider using a relevant question to draw your reader in and get them actively thinking about the subject of your essay, consider using a relevant question to draw your reader in and get them actively thinking about the subject of your essay. [5] For example: "What would you do if you could play God for a day? That's exactly what the leaders of the tiny island nation of Guam tried to answer." If
your essay prompt was a question, don't just repeat it in your paper. Make sure to come up with your essay. In most cases, they'll actually hurt by making you look like an unoriginal or lazy writer.[6]
Broad, sweeping generalizations may ring false with some readers and alienate someone to love" would alienate someone to love" would alienate someone to love" would alienate someone to love would alienate someone who identified as aromantic or assexual.
to the rest of your essay. Start with a broader, more general scope to explain your hook's relevance. [8] Use an appropriate transitional word or phrase, such as "however" or "similarly," to move from your specific anecdote back out to a broader scope. For example, if you related a story about one individual, but your essay isn't about them, you can
relate the hook back to the larger topic with a sentence like "Tommy wasn't alone, however. There were more than 200,000 dockworkers affected by that union strike." 2 Provide necessary background information. While you're still keeping things relatively general, let your readers know anything that will be necessary for them to understand your
main argument and the points you're making in your essay.[9] For example, if you are writing an argumentative paper, make sure to explain both sides of
the argument in a neutral or objective manner. 3 Define key terms for the purposes of your essay. Your topic may include broad concepts or terms of art that you will need to define for your reader. Your introduction isn't the place to reiterate basic dictionary definitions. However, if there is a key term that may be interpreted differently depending on
the context, let your readers know how you're using that term. [10] Definitions would be particularly important if your essay is discussing a scientific terminology might not be understood by the average layperson. Definitions also come in handy in legal or political essays, where a term may have different meanings
depending on the context in which they are used. 4 Move from the general to the specific. It can be helpful to think of your introduction as an upside-down pyramid. With your hook sitting on top, your introduction welcomes your readers to the broader world in which your thesis resides.[11] If you're using 2 or 3 sentences to describe the context for
your thesis, try to make each sentence a bit more specific than the one before it. Draw your reader in gradually. For example, if you're writing an essay about drunk driving fatalities, you might start with an anecdote about a particular victim. Then you could provide national statistics, then narrow it down further to statistics for a particular gender or
age group. Advertisement 1 Make your point. After you've set up the context within which you're making your essay. [12] For example, a thesis for an essay on blackface performance might be
"Because of its humiliating and demoralizing effect on African American slaves, blackface was used less as a comedy routine and more as a way of enforcing racial segregation." Be assertive and confident in your writing. Avoid including fluff such as "In this essay, I will attempt to show...." Instead, dive right in and make your claim, bold and proud.
Your outline should be specific, unique, and provable. Through your readers that it's most likely true. 2 Describe how you're going to prove your point. Round out your introduction by providing your readers with a basic roadmap of what you will say in
In the body of your essay, you would discuss details about how each of those obstacles was addressed or overcome. Instead of just listing all of your supporting points, sum them up by stating "how" or "why" your thesis is true. For example, instead of saying, "Phones should be banned from classrooms because they distract students, promote cheating,
and make too much noise," you might say "Phones should be banned from classrooms because they act as an obstacle to learning." 3 Transition smoothly into the body. Some introductions, however, may require a short
transitional sentence at the end to flow naturally into the rest of your essay.[14] To figure out if you need a transition sentence, read the introduction and the first paragraph out loud. If you find yourself pausing or stumbling between the paragraph out loud. If you find yourself pausing or stumbling between the paragraph out loud. If you find yourself pausing or stumbling between the paragraphs, work in a transition to make the move smoother. You can also have friends or family members reaccurately into the first paragraph out loud. If you find yourself pausing or stumbling between the paragraph out loud. If you find yourself pausing or stumbling between the paragraph out loud. If you find yourself pausing or stumbling between the paragraph out loud. If you find yourself pausing or stumbling between the paragraph out loud. If you find yourself pausing or stumbling between the paragraph out loud. If you find yourself pausing or stumbling between the paragraph out loud. If you find yourself pausing or stumbling between the paragraph out loud. If you find yourself pausing or stumbling between the paragraph out loud. If you find yourself pausing or stumbling between the paragraph out loud. If you find yourself pausing or stumbling between the paragraph out loud. If you find yourself pausing or stumbling between the paragraph out loud. If you find yourself pausing or stumbling the paragraph out loud.
your easy. If they feel it's choppy or jumps from the introduction into the essay, see what you can do to smooth it out. Advertisement 1 Read essays by other writers in your discipline. What constitutes a good introduction will vary widely depending on your subject matter. A suitable introduction in one academic discipline may not work as well in
another.[15] If you're writing your essay for a class assignment, ask your instructor for examples of well-written essays that you can look at. Take note of conventions that are commonly used by writers in that discipline. Make a brief outline of the essay based on the information presented in the introduction. Then look at that outline as you read the
essay to see how the essay follows it to prove the writer's thesis statement. 2 Keep your introduction should be between 5 and 10 percent of the overall length of your essay. [16] If you're writing a 10-page paper, your introduction should be approximately 1 page. For shorter essays under 1,000 words,
keep your introduction to 1 paragraph, between 100 and 200 words. Always follow your instructor's guidelines for length. These rules can vary at times based on genre or form of writing. 3 Write your introduction after you write your essay. Some writers prefer to write the body of the essay first, then go back and write the introduction. It's easier to
present a summary of your essay when you've already written it.[17] As you write your essay, you may want to include in your introduction. For example, you may realize that you're using a particular term that you may want to include in your introduction.
introduction first, go back and make sure your introduction provides an accurate roadmap of your completed paper. Even if you wrote an outline, you may have deviated from your original plans.[18] Delete any filler or unnecessary language. Given the shortness of the introduction, every sentence should be essential to your reader's understanding of
your essay. 5 Structure your introduction effectively.[19] An essay introduction is fairly formulaic, and will have the same basic elements regardless of your subject matter or academic discipline. While it's short, it conveys a lot of information.[20] The first sentence or two should be your hook, designed to grab your reader's attention and get them
interested in reading your essay. The next couple of sentences create a bridge between your hook and the overall topic of the rest of your essay to support or prove your thesis statement. Advertisement Add New Question Question How do you write
an introduction paragraph? Jake Adams Academic Tutor Jake Adams is an academic tutor and the owner of Simplifi EDU, a Santa Monica, California based online tutoring business offering learning resources and online tutors for academic subjects K-College, SAT & ACT prep, and college admissions applications. With over 14 years of professional
tutoring experience, Jake is dedicated to providing his clients the very best online tutoring experience and access to a network of excellent undergraduate and graduate-level tutors from top colleges all over the nation. Jake holds a BS in International Business and Marketing from Pepperdine University. Start with a hook to get your reader interested
Then, once you have their attention, give them some context about what you're going to talk about. Question How do I start a paper about extreme sports to you can be more focused. Note that this will likely be an informative essay. After you do this, an interesting hook statement
may be an anecdote describing an intense moment in that chosen sport to get your audience interested. This can be made up or from your own experience with the sport. Question How can I start an essay about HIV, or perhaps an anecdote
about someone facing this diagnosis and trying to make positive lifestyle changes for their health. See more answers Ask a Question Advertisement Thanks Tha
your intro after writing each section to make sure both the intro and section are relevant to each other and to the paper. A sharp, descriptive title is sometimes just as important as an intro! Advertisement This article was co-authored by Jake Adams and by wikiHow staff writer, Jennifer Mueller, JD. Jake Adams is an academic tutor and the owner of
Simplifi EDU, a Santa Monica, California based online tutoring business offering learning resources and online tutoring experience, Jake is dedicated to providing his clients the very best online tutoring experience and
access to a network of excellent undergraduate and graduate-level tutors from top colleges all over the nation. Jake holds a BS in International Business and Marketing from Pepperdine University. This article has been viewed 4,247,795 times. Co-authors: 125 Updated: January 15, 2025 Views: 4,247,795 Categories: Essays Article SummaryXStart
your introduction with a relevant story, fact, or quote that will engage readers. Then, add 2-3 sentences of background information to give your essay context, and include important dates, locations, or historical moments where applicable. Finally, include your thesis statement, which is a specific, arguable, and provable statement that answers a
question about your essay topic. For example, your thesis might read: "In the modern age, online dating apps like Tinder provide a wider variety of romantic options than young people have ever had before." For more tips and examples on how to craft your thesis and put your introduction together, read on! Print Send fan mail to authors Thanks to all
authors for creating a page that has been read 4,247,795 times. "Thank you so much! I was panicking, since I had no idea how to write my introduction, but you saved me from my demonic English teacher who makes people feel like worms. I kept chanting, "I love you for this, who made this treasure?" I swear in that one hour of writing the essay, the
person who wrote this suddenly became my favorite person in the world. God bless these great tips and the incredibly kind person."..." more Share your stance on the subject. It is usually written after the main body and should include
a number of key parts. This webpage discusses the common structure and focuses on the importance of the thesis. A short 5-minute video on how to write an introduction & the importance of the thesis. A short 5-minute video on how to write an introduction but this structure helps lower-level students identify the key sections of an introduction & the importance of the thesis. A short 5-minute video on how to write an introduction but this structure helps lower-level students identify the key sections of an introduction & the importance of the thesis.
academic introduction. A basic 4-part structure outline and example introduction paragraph. If you can't access this YouTube video in your country, go here A basic 4-part structure outline and example introduction paragraph. If you can't access this YouTube video in your country, go here A basic 4-part structure outline and example introduction paragraph. Thesis Statements: How to write a thesis statement This lesson / worksheet presents the key sections to an academic
introduction. It focuses on different writing structures using the introduction models. Example Level: ****** [B1/B2/C1] / Webpage link / TEACHER MEMBERSHIP / INSTITUTIONAL MEMBERSHIP * International trade has been
predominately controlled by developed countries for centuries and developing countries have struggled to access this market. Fair Trade is a worldwide initiative aimed at improving the livelihood of producers and empowering workers in developing countries by generating better terms and sufficient wages (Fair Trade International, 2017). Overall
Fair Trade develops increased economic stability, higher salaries compared to conventional producers and educates community diversification. Thus, to a large extent the claim that Fair Trade negatively impacts producers and educates community diversification. Thus, to a large extent the claim that Fair Trade negatively impacts producers and educates community diversification.
diversification and conclude with suggestions on how Fair Trade could be improved. Highlighted Sections International trade has been predominately controlled by developed countries and developing countries are considered as a constant of the countries are constant of the countries
empowering workers in developing countries by generating better terms and sufficient wages (Fair Trade lovelops increased economic stability, higher salaries compared to conventional producers and educates community diversification. Thus, to a large extent the claim that Fair Trade negatively impacts
producers and workers in developing countries is invalid. This essay will focus on the main arguments connected to stability, salaries and diversification and conclude with suggestions on how Fair Trade could be improved. Thesis — Memberships (Teacher / Institutional) — Full access to everything - £100 / £200 / £550 Join today*x An introduction
generally does three things. The first part is usually a general comment that shows the reader why the topic is important, gets their interest, and leads them into the topic. It isn't actually part of your argument. The next part of the introduction is the thesis statement. This is your response to the question; your final answer. It is probably the most
important part of the introduction. Finally, the introduction tells the reader what they can expect in the essay body. This is where you briefly outline your arguments. Here is an example of the introduction to the question - Discuss how media can influence children. Use specific examples to support your view. One of my friends - a high-up professor in
an English university - told me he can tell the grade a student will get within the first 90 seconds of reading a paper. This makes the introduction orients your reader to how well you understand academic writing, your skills in critical thinking, your ability to write professionally with
minimal errors, and the depth of knowledge you have on the topic. All in one fantastic paragraph! No pressure. No wonder introductions are so difficult to write an introduction! After reading the top 30 online articles on how
to write an essay introduction, I synthesized the five most common steps that universities give on how to write an introduction. The five steps I am going to introduce to you in this paragraph are from my I.N.T.R.O. method. The
INTRO method's steps are: [I] Interest: Provide an opening sentence that shows why the topic is of interest to everyday human beings [N] Notify: Notify the reader of background or contextual information [T] Translate: Tr
outline of the essay structure Below, I go through each step one by one. Each step is designed to be written in order, although you may feel free to mix them up after you've written each sentence to make it feel and read just the way you like. Use the INTRO method as a guide for how to write an introduction and get words down on paper. As I often
argue on this website, just writing something is often the hardest part. You may also find that some essay introductions work better without one or more of these 5 steps. That is okay, too. Use these 5 steps as advice on points to include in an introduction and adjust them as you need. You may find in your specific area of study you need to add or
remove other sentences. Play around with your introduction until you feel comfortable with it. So don't be too hard on yourself: have a go at a draft of your introduction with no pressure to use it in the end. You'll find by the time you've written these five sentences you'll have the creative juices flowing and a compelling introduction will be down on
paper in no time. Provide an opening sentence that shows why the topic is interesting to everyday human beings Nearly every source on how to write an introduction that I found online recommended that your first sentence be an engaging 'hook'. Most sources highlight that the 'hook' sentence should draw in the reader's interest in order to make
your piece stand out. The marker wants to see if you understand why this topic is of interest is in the first place. They want to see if you understand why this topic is interesting to everyday human beings. This makes it relevant to your reader. To show you understand
why the topic is of interest in the first place, aim to do one of the following things: Show what makes the topic worth discussing. Your 'Interest' sentence might help show why someone should care about the topic. Will it affect our livelihoods? Will it harm us? Make our work lives easier? The more relatable this point is to real human lives, the better
Highlight the single most interesting point in the essay. You might notice that you have already pointed out this interesting, relatable point and make it the opening sentence of your introduction. Use an interesting fact or figure to show the topic's importance. Percentages or real numbers about
how many people are or would be impacted by the issue help to show the topic's importance. This will create reader interest with a 'wow' factor. Show how the essay topic is relevant to today's world. If you're struggling to identify this interesting 'hook', go onto google and find news reports related to your topic. How has the topic made it into the
news recently? The news report will help you to brainstorm why this topic is of interest to the everyday lives of real human beings. However, do not overstate the issue. You should provide a clear, reasonable perspective in this first sentence rather than an over-the-top claim. For example, aim to avoid hyperbolic or overly emotional phrases: Too much
hyperbole and emotion: Professionally crafted phrase: "For the sake of the survival of humankind, ... "A prosperous future may require..." "The outrageous murder of whales in the Pacific is condemned internationally by respected bodies such as the United Nations." "It has
 always been the case that...""There has long been scientific consensus that..." To find out more about retracting over-the-top emotion and hyperbole, we have put together a guide on academic language that you may like to read. To summarize, I recommend that your first step in how to write an introduction is to write a 'hook' sentence that focuses
on why the topic is interesting to everyday human beings. Use sober, clear facts about the importance of the topic to real human lives to get yourself started. Read Also: My Suggested Best Words to Start a Paragraph Notify the reader of background or contextual information Nearly every source I found also recommended that you provide brief
'background' or 'contextual' information. 'Background' or 'contextual' information shows your depth of knowledge and understanding of the topics: Topic Example of brief contextualization Climate Change Climate change only made its way into the world's focus in the early 2000s, even though
scientists knew about it as early as the 1980s. Harry Potter JK Rowling came up with the idea for the Harry Potter series while on a train in Britain. Snowboarding In the mid-1980s snowboarding was considered a rebellious, anti-social sport that was banned on many ski resorts through the 1990s. United States History The United States was settled
by British-born Europeans in the 1500s, although it had been inhabited for many thousands of years previously by the Indigenous people of North America. Hopefully, you can see here that giving 'context' is a way of showing that you have a really strong or deep knowledge of the history or background story of the topic. This is your chance to
differentiate your depth of knowledge from other students. A sentence or two giving some of this context also helps to show off your knowledge right from the start. Most sources recommend only providing one or two sentences of background information. This will help you to show off your knowledge without stealing content from the body of your
essay. The body of the essay will add depth and detail to your points in the introduction, so feel free to leave out examples and explanations beyond your engaging sentence or two: you will have time in the body of the essay to elaborate. Translate the essay topic or question This point was mentioned by more than half the websites I found giving
advice on how to write an introduction. Many universities recommend re-stating the essay topic or question in your own words. This helps your marker to see that you understand the topic and are directly addressing it. Here are some examples of essay questions and ways you can re-state the essay question in your introduction: Essay Question
Rephrased in a Sentence in the Introduction How can knowledge about history help us to improve our lives in the future? The study of history will improve the lives of millions of people in the future. Critique how the struggle
between capitalism and communism shaped the second half of the 20th Century. After World War 2, the world's focus quickly shifted to the uneasy relationship between 1950 and 1990 were heavily shaped by the conflicts and proxy wars
between capitalism and communism. (See also: examples of ideologies). What is the lasting impact of European Colonisation in the 21st Century? European co
and Antipodes were rapidly colonized by European powers. This European colonization continues to have an enormous impact on the livelihoods, health, and welfare of hundreds of millions of Indigenous peoples. Something to keep in mind is that you do not want to appear to be re-stating the essay question simply to take up extra words. We call this
'padding'. An example of padding is when a student drops the essay question in as a question, word-for-word: How can knowledge about history help us to improve our lives in the future? This is the question that will be answered in this essay will answer the question "What is the lasting impact of European Colonisation in the 21st
Century?" Do not drop the essay question into the introduction without paraphrasing or surrounding explanation. If you do this, your marker will think you're just trying to add words to the introduction because you're not sure of anything interesting to say Report your position or argument Most essays do not require you to take a stance on an issue
Essays that do require you to take a stance are called either 'argumentative essays' or 'persuasive essays'. If you are writing a persuasive essay, you will need to include Step 4: Report. For this step, you'll need to state where you stand on the issue: Question for a Persuasive essay Stated Position in the Introduction Can knowledge about history help
us to improve our lives in the future? This essay demonstrates that knowledge about history is invaluable in helping current generations learn the lessons of the past in order that knowledge about history is invaluable in helping current generations learn the lessons of the past in order that knowledge about history is invaluable in helping current generations learn the lessons of the past in order that knowledge about history is invaluable in helping current generations learn the lessons of the past in order that knowledge about history is invaluable in helping current generations learn the lessons of the past in order that knowledge about history is invaluable in helping current generations learn the lessons of the past in order that knowledge about history is invaluable in helping current generations.
Union concluded with the fall of the Soviet Union and the movement of democratic capitalism further into Eastern Europe. This essay argues that the long decades of suffering, government corruption, and limited individual freedoms in the Soviet Union demonstrated that communism is impractical when put into practice. Should Europe have
Colonised Africa? While many scholars argue that European colonization of Africa brought increased opportunities and healthcare to Indigenous peoples, the argument that European colonization should not have occurred. Keep in mind
that essays should never leave a reader confused. Essay writing is not like to be surprised. They want the facts up-front. Therefore, your marker will expect to know what your stance is on the issue right
from the introduction onwards. Provide an outline of the Essay Structure This last point on how to write an introduction is important and separates average students. Introduction is important and separates average students from top students. Introduction is important and separates average students from top students. Introduction is important and separates average students from top students. Introduction is important and separates average students.
highlight that you should orient your marker reinforces the importance of this. Always, always, quide your marker's reading experience. Your essay should signpost all key concepts, theories, and main sections that make up your essay should signpost all key concepts, theories, and main sections that make up your essay should signpost all key concepts, theories, and main sections that make up your essay should signpost all key concepts, theories, and main sections that make up your essay should signpost all key concepts, theories, and main sections that make up your essay should signpost all key concepts, theories, and main sections that make up your essay should signpost all key concepts.
marker. A confused marker very rapidly lowers your mark. Too often, students fail to outline key points of their essays in the introduction in order to gain marks. It is always easier to write this outline once the essay plan is written. You will then
be able to gather together the key points that you listed in your essay plan and include them in the introduction. The outline of the essay structure can only be one or two sentences long. You can state as your last sentence in your introduction. The outline of the essay opens with ..., and finally ..., and fin
 "After exploring ..., ... and ..., this essay will conclude with ..." Try to outline the issues you will cover in order. Providing an orderly outline of your essay is very helpful for your reader. Now, I know that some people don't like this method. Let me reassure you with this study from Theresa Thonney in 2016. Thonney examined 600 top-ranking articles
in fields including Literature, Music, Environmental Sciences, Nutrition, Inter-Cultural Studies, and more to see how many articles used this method. In other words, she completed a comprehensive study of whether professional, published authors use this method of orientating the reader to the structure of the article. Thonney found that 100% of
top-ranking articles she looked at in the Astronomy field used this method. 98% of articles in Sociology journals used this method. In fact, the field with the lowest amount of authors who use this method. In other words, even the lowest result she found showed that three in every four professional
authors use this method. So, you should too. Let's sum point 5 up by reinforcing this very important rule: your marker should always be very clear about what they will read, and in what order, to improve their reading experience. I want to conclude this post with an outline of some of the worst things you can do in an introduction. The introduction
sets the scene, so you want to make a good impression. You don't want your marker taking away marks due to one of these top mistakes: Rhetorical Questions. I have colleagues who absolutely refuse to let students include references in
their introductions. Personally, I think that's absurd - if a reference is required, include it! However, check with your teacher on their personal preferences here as I know this is a point of contention in faculty lounges. The introduction is important for creating a strong first impression, especially since markers often make up their mind about your
grade very early on in the marking process. Introductions are best written last. That way, you will be able to include all the signposting you need to do (step 5), have a good understanding of the context (step 2), and be more certain about what your stance is on the issue (step 4). Here's the five INTRO steps I'd encourage you to use every time: [I]
Interest: Provide an opening sentence that shows why the topic is of interest to everyday human beings [N] Notify: Notify the reader of background or contextual information [T] Translate: Translate the essay topic or question by paraphrasing it [R] Report: Report on your position or argument [O] Outline: Provide an outline of the essay structure
Once you have written your introduction, it is a good idea to put it away for a few days and then come back to edit it with fresh eyes. Remember that grammar and punctuation are important in the introduction. You want to leave a good impression. If you have a friend who can read the draft for you and give you tips, or if your teacher has drop-in
hours, use them to get some tips on how to write an introduction, what sounds off, and how you might be able to improve your introduction. Once you have written your piece as strongly as you started! People often think
conclusions are just like introductions. That's not true. Conclusions are unique paragraphs, so head over to our guidance on conclusions now to get the support you need on writing the best conclusions now to get the support you need on writing the best conclusions are unique paragraphs, so head over to our guidance on conclusions now to get the support you need on writing the best conclusions now to get the support you need on writing the best conclusions are unique paragraphs, so head over to our guidance on conclusions now to get the support you need on writing the best conclusions are unique paragraphs, so head over to our guidance on conclusions now to get the support you need on writing the best conclusions are unique paragraphs.
 minute they should know if your essay is going to be a good one or not. An introduction has several components but the most important of these are the last two we give here. You need to show the reader what your position is and how you are going to argue the case to get there so that the essay becomes your answer to the question rather than just
an answer. A little basic background about the key subject area (just enough to put your essay into context, no more or you'll bore the reader). Explanation of how you are defining any key terms. Confusion on this could be your undoing. A road-map of how you are defining any key terms. Confusion on this could be your undoing. A road-map of how your essay will answer the question. What is your overall argument and how will you develop it?
A confirmation of your position. It is good to start with a statement that fixes your essay topic and focus in a wider context so that the reader is sure of where they are within the field. This is a very small part of the introduction though,
this only has to be a little bit wider, not completely universal. That is, do not start with a general statement about a topic, outlining about within a slightly bigger area. For example, you could start with a general statement about a topic, outlining
some key issues but explain that your essay will focus on only one. Here is an example: The ability to communicate effectively and clearly, it is about effective listening (Singh, 2019), the use of gesture, body language and tone (Adebe
et al., 2016) and the ability to tailor language and messaging to particular situations (Smith & Jones, 2015). This essay will explore the importance of non-verbal communication ... The example introduction at the bottom of this page also starts with similar, short background information. This does not mean quoting dictionary definitions - we all
have access to dictionary.com with a click or two. There are many words we use in academic work that can have multiple or nuanced definitions. You have to write about how you are defining any potentially ambiguous terms in relation to your essay topic. This is really important for your reader, as it will inform them how you are using such words in
the context of your essay and prevent confusion or misunderstanding. The main thing an introduction will do is...introduce your essay! That means you need to worry about *SPOILER ALERTS* - this is not a detective novel you can give away the ending! Sorry, but
building up suspense is just going to irritate the reader rather than eventually satisfy. Simply outline how your main arguments (give them in order) lead to your conclusion. In American essay guides you will see something described as the 'thesis statement' - although we don't use this terminology in the UK, it is still necessary to state in your
introduction what the over-arching argument of your essay will be. Think of it as the mega-argument, to distinguish it from the mini-arguments you make in each paragraph. Look at the example introduction at the bottom of this page which includes both of these elements. To some extent, this is covered in your roadmap (above), but it is so important
it deserves some additional attention here. Setting out your position is an essential component of all essays. Brick et al. (2016:143) even suggest "The purpose of an essay is to present a clear position and defend it" It is, however, very difficult to defend a position if you have not made it clear in the first place. This is where your introduction comes in.
In stating your position, you are ultimately outlining the answer to the question. You can then make the rest of your essay about providing the evidence that supports your answer. As you have already told your reader where
the essay is going, you can be explicit in how each paragraph contributes to your mega-argument. In establishing your positions are supported by academic evidence and analysis. It is in your analysis of the academic evidence that should lead your reader
to understand your position. Once again - this is only possible if your introduction has explained your position in the first place. YouTube video on writing essay introductions for scientific papers Brick, J., Herke, M., and Wong, D., (2016) Academic Culture, A students guide to studying at university, 3rd edition.
Victoria, Australia: Palgrave Macmillan. Share it on Email 407.2K The introduction of an essay plays a critical role in engaging the reader and providing contextual information about the topic. It sets the stage for the rest of the essay, establishes the tone and style, and motivates the reader
to continue reading. Before we get into how to write an essay introduction, we need to know how it is structure of an essay is crucial for organizing your thoughts and presenting them clearly and logically. It is divided as follows: 2 Introduction: The introduction should grab the reader's attention with a hook, provide context, and
include a thesis statement that presents the main argument or purpose of the essay. Body: The body should concentrate on a single central idea or argument and provide evidence, examples, or analysis to back it up.
Conclusion: The conclusion should summarize the main points and restate the thesis differently. End with a final statement that leaves a lasting impression on the reader. Avoid new information or arguments. What is an essay introduction? An introduction is the opening section of an essay, paper, or other written work. It introduces the topic and
provides background information, context, and an overview of what the reader can expect from the rest of the work. The key is to be concise and to the point, providing enough information to engage the reader without delving into excessive detail. What to include in an essay introduction? The essay introduction is crucial as it sets the tone for the
entire piece and provides the reader with a roadmap of what to expect. Here are key elements to include in your essay introduction: Hook: Start with an attention-grabbing statement or question to engage the reader. This could be a surprising fact, a relevant quote, or a compelling anecdote. Background information: Provide context and background
information to help the reader understand the topic. This can include historical information, definitions of key terms, or an overview of the current state of affairs related to your thesis should be concise and specific, providing a clear direction for your essay. How
to Write an Essay Introduction with Paperpal? Step 1: Build an Outline Creating a strong essay introduction is crucial, and using an outline can organize your thoughts and ensure the introduction stays focused on the main argument of your essay. This prevents you from
going off on tangents or including irrelevant information. To build an outline, you can use Paperpal's AI Writing Templates to provide a base for your essay introduction outline with Paperpal. Go to Templates > Outlines > Essays Enter your Topic Generate an Essay Outline Step 2: Start with a
Hook Okay, now you're ready with the outline. You know you need a great introduction, grabbing statement, question, quote, or anecdote related to your topic. The hook should pique the reader's interest and encourage them to
continue reading. That's where Paperpal Write comes in. It's like having a writing buddy who's really good at getting you started. Here's how easy it is: Just add your outline or upload your notes!" Boom! In seconds, you'll have a
solid introduction hook. And if you want to tweak it? No problem. Paperpal gives you easy options to change it up, or you can just tell it exactly what you want. Step 3: Provide Background Information Eackground Information Eachground Information Eachg
foundation to comprehend your thesis. The background of an essay introduction can include defining key terms, providing historical context and scientific consensus or outlining relevant theories. If you want to explain where an idea came from, or explain the science behind it in your essay introduction, Paperpal's Research feature can help. Just ask a
research question and Paperpal finds the papers from a database of 250M+ research articles. State your question. It also gives you a quick summary of all the papers right there, so you don't have to wade through tons of complicated articles. State your question and Paperpal finds the papers right there, so you don't have to wade through tons of complicated articles.
of your essay, also known as Thesis Statement. A thesis statement is generally placed at the end of the essay introduction can gradually lead the reader from a general topic to the specific argument of your essay. Placing the thesis statement at the end helps to create a smooth and logical progression. The thesis
statement acts as a roadmap, guiding both the writer and the reader through the essay's main points. It signals the direction the essay will take and the evidence that will be presented. Got some notes jotted down? Great! You can actually upload them to Paperpal and ask it to write your thesis statement for you. Just tell Paperpal what you need, or
pick from some of its pre-made options, and it'll create a thesis statement for you. Then, you can make it your own! Change the wording, adjust it until it sounds exactly what you want for your essay's introduction. It's all about making writing that
thesis statement easier and faster. Generate Your Thesis Statement Once you're done with the essay introduction, preview the main points and align how you want the reader comprehend the thesis statement. o expect and how you want the reader comprehend the thesis statement.
relevant to your topic. Revise and personalize your essay introduction after you've written the rest of your essay introduction. Crafting a compelling hook is vital because it sets the tone for your entire essay and determines whether your readers will stay
interested. A good hook draws the reader in and sets the stage for the rest of your essay. Avoid Dry Facts: Instead of simply stating about the benefits of exercise, you could start with a startling statistic like, "Did you know that regular exercise can increase
your lifespan by up to seven years?" Avoid Using a Dictionary Definition: While definitions can be informative, they're not always the most captivating way to start an essay. Instead, try to use a quote, anecdote, or provocative question to pique the reader's interest. For instance, if you're writing about freedom, you could begin with a quote from a
famous freedom fighter or philosopher. Do Not Just State a Fact That the Reader Already Knows: This ties back to the first point—your hook should surprise or intrigue the reader. Here's an essay introduction paragraph example, if you're writing about climate change, you could start with a thought-provoking statement like, "Despite overwhelming
evidence, many people still refuse to believe in the relevance of your essay is important to provide context and establish the relevance of your topic. When writing the background information, you can follow these steps: Start with a General Statement: Begin with a general
statement about the topic and gradually narrow it down to your specific focus. For example, when discussing the impact of social media and its widespread use in today's society, as follows: "Social media has become an integral part of modern life, with billions of users worldwide."
Define Key Terms: Define any key terms or concepts that may be unfamiliar to your readers but are essential for understanding your argument. Provide Relevant Statistics: Use statistics or facts to highlight the significance of the issue you're discussing. For instance, "According to a report by Statista, the number of social media users is expected to
reach 4.41 billion by 2025." Discuss the Evolution: Mention previous research or studies that have been conducted on the topic, especially those that are relevant to your argument. Mention previous research or studies that have been conducted on the topic, especially those that are relevant to your argument. Wention previous research or studies that have shaped its current impact. You can also outline some of the major effects of social media. For example, you can briefly
describe how social media has evolved, including positives such as increased connectivity and issues like cyberbullying and privacy concerns. Transition to Your Thesis: Use the background information to lead into your thesis statement, which should clearly state the main argument or purpose of your essay. For example, "Given its pervasive
influence, it is crucial to examine the impact of social media on mental health." A thesis statement is a concise summary of the main point or claim of an essay, research paper, or other type of academic writing. It appears near the end of the introduction. Here's how to write a thesis statement: Identify the topic: Start by identifying the topic of your
essay. For example, if your essay is about the importance of exercise for overall health, your topic is "exercise for overall health, your position could be:
"Regular exercise is essential for maintaining good health." Support your position: Provide a brief overview of the reasons or evidence that support your position. These will be the main points of your essay. For example, if you're writing an essay about the importance of exercise, you could mention the physical health benefits, mental health benefits,
and the role of exercise in disease prevention. Make it specific: Ensure your thesis statement clearly states what you will discuss in your essay. For example, instead of saying, "Exercise is good for you," you could say, "Regular exercise, including cardiovascular and strength training, can improve overall health and reduce the risk of chronic
diseases." Here are examples of essay introductions for different types of essays: Topic: Should the voting age should be lowered to 16 has sparked nationwide debate. While some argue that 16-year-olds lack the requisite maturity and knowledge to make informed decisions, others argue
that doing so would imbue young people with agency and give them a voice in shaping their future." Topic: The benefits of regular exercise cannot be overstated. From improving physical health to boosting mental well-being, the benefits of exercise are numerous and far-reaching. This
essay will examine the various advantages of regular exercise and provide tips on incorporating it into your daily routine." Text: "To Kill a Mockingbird" by Harper Lee "Harper Lee's novel, 'To Kill a Mockingbird,' is a timeless classic that explores themes of racism, injustice, and morality in the American South. Through the eyes of young Scout
Finch, the reader is taken on a journey that challenges societal norms and forces character to confront their prejudices. This essay will analyze the novel's use of symbolism, character development, and narrative structure to uncover its deeper meaning and relevance to confront their prejudices. This essay will analyze the novel's use of symbolism, character development, and narrative structure to uncover its deeper meaning and relevance to confront their prejudices. This essay will analyze the novel's use of symbolism, character development, and narrative structure to uncover its deeper meaning and relevance to confront their prejudices.
sentence captures the reader's attention and relates directly to the topic. Background Information: Enough background information is introduced to provide context for the audience or are central to the argument are defined. Clear Thesis
Statement: The thesis statement presents the main point or argument of the essay. Relevance to Main Body: Everything in the introduction is crucial for setting the tone and context of your essay. Here are the key takeaways for how to write
essay introduction: 3 Hook the Reader: Start with an engaging hook to grab the reader's attention. This could be a compelling question, a surprising fact, a relevant quote, or an anecdote. Provide Background: Give a brief overview of the topic, setting the context and stage for the discussion. Thesis Statement: State your thesis, which is the main
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argument or point of your essay. It should be concise, clear, and specific. Preview the Structure: Outline the main points or arguments to help the reader understand the organization of your essay. Keep it Concise: Avoid including unnecessary details or information not directly related to your thesis. Revise and Edit: Revise your introduction to ensure clarity, coherence, and relevance. Check for grammar and spelling errors. Seek Feedback: Get feedback: Get feedback from peers or instructors to improve your introduction further. 1. What is the purpose of an essay introduction is to give an every ine introduction will be not been a considerable to the test of the tests of the total word count. For example, in a 1,000-word essay, the tender of the tests of the total word count. For example, in a 1,000-word essay introduction will be introduction is critical in engaging the reader and providing contextual information about the topic. To ensure its effectiveness, consider incorporating these key elements: a compelling hook, background information, a clear thesis statement, an outline of the essay, so, a smooth transition to the body, and optional signposting sentences. 4. What are some strategies for starting an essay introduction? The process of writing an essay introduction is not introduction in the test of the tests of the tests, with the essay introduction is critical in engaging the reader and providing contextual information about the topic. To ensure its effectiveness, consider incorporating these key elements:

A. What are some strategies for starting an essay introduction is critical in engaging the reader and providing contextual information about the topic and the strategies for starting an essay introduction is critical in engaging in the same the same the strategies for starting an essay introduct