

**INTRODUCTIONS  
and CONCLUSIONS.**

# INTRODUCTIONS

**Hook, Topic Sentence/Background Info,  
Thesis**

# Writing a detailed and developed introduction

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You know your introduction needs a clear claim/thesis statement. But what else do you put in the paragraph? To answer that question, think about the purpose of an introduction:

- Introduce your topic
- Create interest
- Provide necessary background information
- Identify your main idea
- Preview the rest of your essay

Your thesis statement will identify your main idea and preview the rest of your essay. Remember that this should be one sentence. You will place your thesis at the end of your introduction paragraph. You can use the other sentences in your introduction to introduce your topic, create interest, and provide necessary background information

# TYPES OF HOOKS

# ANECDOTE

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An anecdote is a short story. It can be a story about your own experience or someone else's experience. Use an anecdote to make a point.

o Example: The other morning, Danny— who just got his license last month—was driving to school. Danny's cell phone started beeping and he checked the incoming text message, dropping the toast he was eating and nearly driving off the road in the process.

# QUOTE

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A quote, or quotation, is a passage that you use in your own writing that was originally written or spoken by someone else. You indicate a quote by putting quotation marks around it and acknowledging its source.

o Example: "We were always together, but not as much after she got her license," Gayle Bell says. "If I could bring her back I'd lasso the moon." Bell's 16-year-old daughter, Jessie, rolled her car into a ditch and died in 2003.

# DROP YOUR READER INTO A SCENE

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Use sensory details to describe a scene, giving your reader an immediate sense of time and place.

o Example: A video about defensive driving drones from the TV at the front of the darkened classroom. It's warm, and several of the teenagers have drifted off to sleep. Others quietly text their friends, their cell phones glowing between their cupped hands.



# SURPRISING FACT

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A surprising fact is an interesting piece of information that your readers aren't likely to know. It's a statement that will make your readers say, "Really?"

o Example: The rate of crashes for 16-year-old drivers is almost 10 times the rate for older drivers.

# RHETORICAL QUESTION

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A rhetorical question is a statement in the form of a question. You ask a rhetorical question to make a point, not to get an answer. THIS QUESTION SHOULD NOT BE IN SECOND PERSON - AKA: Do NOT use YOU!!

o Example: What's more important: Driving at the age of sixteen or saving lives?

The background information should connect your hook to the thesis/claim. This might mean further explanation on terminology, an introduction to the prejudice in this case, or maybe some background information on the texts you will discuss.

# CONCLUSIONS

Your conclusion should consist of three things

1. Restate the thesis in new words
2. Connect back to the hook (brings your paper full circle)
3. Answer the SO WHAT? Question - why is this topic beneficial to all people?

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