

## Introductions and Conclusions

### Introductions:

1. The introduction guides the readers' attention to the ideas you will present.
2. The introduction generally begins with a general statement and becomes more specific, or tells a story that illustrates the point you will be making.
3. What the introduction should do:
  - help readers to anticipate the tone of the essay
  - appeal to readers
  - announce the subject of the essay
  - provide necessary background
  - provide framework and purpose of essay
  - end with your **thesis statement**
4. The introduction **can contain**:

--a startling statistic or unusual fact	--a vivid example
--a description	--a paradoxical statement
--a hypothetical situation	--a definition of terms
--a quotation	--a question you plan on answering
--an analogy	--a joke or an anecdote

### The introduction **should not**:

- apologize for the topic or content
- begin with gross overstatement
- begin with clichés
- include a signpost (ex: "In this essay, I will...")

5. Thesis Statement:

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### **Conclusions:**

1. The conclusion is meant to summarize your purpose and prepare your reader to “return to the world”
2. The conclusion **can**:
  - restate or summarize your point(s)
  - create/use an image or example which epitomizes your topic
  - call your reader to action
  - explore the implications of the topic
  - pose a question for further study
  - offer advice
  - convey a sense of completion
  - revisit the story or example from the introduction

### The conclusion **should not**:

- introduce new ideas
- end too quickly
- apologize for what you have said
- contradict your thesis