



Conclusion

The conclusion wraps up your paper, so be sure to make reference to all the ideas you brought up! Restate your thesis! Include a final assessment of the information you are presenting i.e. what is the point of all this? What message are you trying to send to your readers? Remember, this is your final chance to make a good impression! End with a strong message so your readers remember what the essay is saying.



Intro

The introduction will set the tone for your paper. Consider opening your introductory paragraph with an interesting/impactful quote from a historical figure, literary figure, etc. The introduction should contain your thesis statement. This is typically placed towards the end/at the end of the introductory paragraph. You can use the introductory paragraph to define any terms you will be using throughout the paper (terms that someone may not be familiar with). It is helpful to use the O.E.D. for this (Oxford English Dictionary). The length of introductory paragraphs varies depending on the writer's style and the topic of the paper.

How to write: Intros & Conclusions



By: Will Brodner &
Madison McAuliffe



This pamphlet is designed to help writers gain a better understanding of how to construct introductions and conclusions.



Sometimes the hardest part of writing is simply getting started...

At the WRC, we are here to help you reach your potential as a writer. The most daunting challenge of writing a paper can often be just finding a place to start. Many people mistakenly equate an introduction to the starting point of a paper. However, you do not need to have a perfect introduction in order to begin writing the other elements of your paper. In fact, the introduction will often fall into place with much more ease if you decide to write it after already establishing where your paper is going. This is not to say that there aren't many people who benefit from writing out an introduction right at the beginning. At the end of the day, it is up to you, the writer, to find out which method works best for you.



Q&A

Does the introduction need to be the first thing that you write?

No! Despite appearing first in the paper, the introduction does not need to be written first. Often times writers have a better understanding of how they want to fill their introduction after they have already established the body of their paper. However, it is always extremely helpful and important to have a thesis statement in mind before actually setting out to write the body paragraphs of the paper. Remember, you can have a thesis statement without having constructed an introduction paragraph already.

What if my intro and conclusion paragraphs are too long or too short?

Only you can decide the appropriate length of your introduction and conclusion. As long as you are clearly and effectively stating what needs to be said, you should be fine. As the writer, you have the creative license to decide the respective lengths of your introduction and conclusion paragraphs.