

## **Recording Script**

### **Introduction Presentation**

#### **Slide 1:**

Hello everyone, this is michelle, welcome to this brief review of the introductory paragraph Your introduction is your first chance to establish credibility with the reader--and one rarely gets a second chance to make a first impression To be effective, your introductory paragraph must do three things.

#### **Slide 2:**

First, an introduction should grab the reader's grab, second the introduction should narrow the reader's focus and provide a connection to the last and most important part—your thesis, which must be presented as the central or controlling idea.

#### **Slide 3:**

A common way to construct your introduction is by using the funnel approach. At the beginning you grab the reader's attention, showing that you, the writer, will be in control. In the middle portion of the funnel you gradually narrow the reader's focus in preparation for the thesis, which is stated at the end or tip of the funnel. Let's take a closer look at each part.

#### **Slide 4:**

Generally, the first sentence of the introduction grabs the readers' attention and introduces the topic in a way that communicates its importance. You can accomplish this by using a surprising statistic, asking the reader a question, providing a strong quote or historical background. Why go to so much trouble in the introduction? The introduction is where you, the writer, will either come across as someone who is in command of the topic or someone who lacks the confidence of knowledge. Which kind of writer would you rather read? Most importantly, Which writer will receive the better grade?

#### **Slide 5:**

The middle of the introduction provides any background information necessary to prepare the reader for the thesis. Thus the main purpose of this section is to connect the intro's opening with the thesis. Without this connection, the thesis can come as a surprise to the reader, who has not been adequately prepared for it.

#### **Slide 6:**

At the tip of the funnel comes the thesis statement. This is when the reader becomes fully aware of your argument or major point. The two main features of a thesis are: first, it addresses your assignment in a direct way, even to the point of repeating key words of the assignment directions. Second, the thesis presents your point of view, or slant on the topic. Thus, the thesis is the core of your writing, around which all the other parts revolve, and it must be showcased here in your introduction.

**Slide 7:**

There are three techniques usually frowned upon when writing an introduction. First, avoid being vague or hesitant, which immediately raises readers' doubts. Using first person is also a no-no unless the assignment requires it, and finally, avoid the obvious announcement statement such as "This paper will discuss as a way to begin or end your introduction.

**Slide 8:**

Let's take a quick look at an effective introduction that combines these elements:

- **As humans celebrate the new year, most are unaware that nearly two thirds of polar bears will likely vanish by 2013 because of global warming (Mieszkowski, 2008).**

As you can see it begins with a startling statistic that underscores the topic's importance:

Next,

- **With polar ice melting at alarming rates, bears are starving and drowning as scientists search for ways to prevent their extinction.**

This sentence provides a logical connection or bridge between the opening and the all-important thesis which is to come:

And finally

- **For polar bears to survive, humans must reduce global warming by conserving energy and reducing greenhouse gases, or soon it will be us facing extinction.**

Here is the thesis, which states a clear point of view that will be developed in the body.

**Slide 9:**

Throughout your college career, Please remember that you may submit your introduction or any part of your rough draft to our database. One of our Writing Advisors will provide feedback to you in 24-48 hours. Good luck and keep on writing!