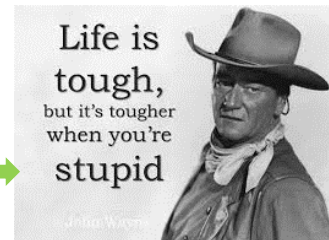


Tips for Writing an Essay

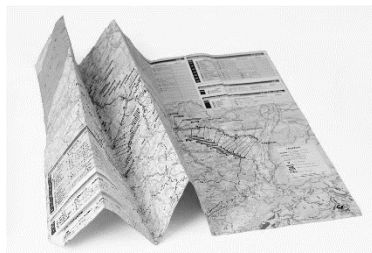
1. INTRODUCTION

The introduction of an essay provides excitement, gives basic information, and tells the plan of the essay. An introduction should include a hook, connecting information, and a thesis statement

Hook – Use an opening statement to catch the reader's attention, such as a question, a unique scenario, a current issue in society, or a "famous quote."



Connecting information - Use 3 to 5 sentences to connect the reader to the topic by providing background information or examples. These sentences provide a transition from the hook to the thesis statement.



Thesis statement – A thesis statement is one sentence that clearly and concisely expresses the main ideas of an essay. The thesis should act like a map that gives at the thesis and know what you will be writing about and where throughout the paper you will be writing about it. Be specific and to the point. (For more on the thesis statement, refer to the thesis statement handout.)

2. BODY

The body is the main part of an essay, normally consisting of **3 to 4 paragraphs**.

Each paragraph should begin with a summarizing statement, explain the details about the main points to support the thesis statement, and be specific (focused).

3. CONCLUSION

The conclusion should contain much of the same information as the introduction.

Three guidelines:

1. Make it clear that it is your conclusion. Do this by using a transitional expression such as: *In conclusion*, *From the information given* *To summarize*, etc.
2. Do not introduce new information in the conclusion but help the reader reconsider the main ideas.
3. Use a closing suggestion, opinion, or prediction
OR a statement that declares that the issue or question has been addressed or answered.