



PRAIRIE VIEW A&M UNIVERSITY

The Writing Center Presents:

Introductions and Conclusions

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Purpose

- In any paper, your introduction and conclusion paragraphs are perhaps the two most important parts of your essay.
- Your introduction sets your reader up for everything your essay will discuss and should contain your thesis.
- Your conclusion will tie all of your thoughts together. Think of the two paragraphs as bookends.

Introductions

- Your introduction should include:
- An opening statement. to draw interest and give background information.
- Your thesis statement.
- The main points you will argue to prove your thesis.

No matter how large your essay may be, your introduction needs to set the reader up for everything they will be reading. It should also give your topic some relevance as to why it is important.

Starting Up...

- The easiest way to set up your introduction is to have an outline or a series of notes.
- Set out the main points of your argument.
- Relate all of your points together with your thesis.
- Transition from point to point to bring them all together.



Conclusions

- Your conclusion paragraph will be similar to your intro, without being word-for-word the same.
- Re-state your thesis.
- Summarize your argument and how it reflects your thesis.
- Synthesize a conclusion for your argument in a final statement.



Concluding Introductions and Conclusions

- Your intros and conclusions should reflect one another.
- One serves as a set up, the other ties everything together.
- Your body paragraphs depend on a strong conclusion and introduction to give your argument a foundation to be built on.



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