

How to Write an Introduction

Sentence One: Introduce the theme or main idea of the essay.

Sentence Two: Introduce the literature and state how it relates to the main idea or theme.

Thesis: This sentence contains a subject and an opinion. It is what you will be proving in the essay. What or who proves the main idea in your paper and why does it matter?

Here is an example:

Empathy is the ability to see a situation from another person's point of view. In *To Kill a Mockingbird* many characters fail to show empathy toward one another. Scout, the narrator of the novel, often hurts others when she does not consider their feelings before speaking or acting.