

Write introductions and conclusions




Student name: _____

Class: _____

Date: _____

Once you have drafted your thesis statement, and have the first draft of the main body of your essay – see **Plan and draft writing (1)** – it is time to complete your introduction and write your conclusion. Your introduction will set up your essay for the reader, and your conclusion will bring together your arguments and state your opinion.

Practice

- 1**  **Open the research grid you created for the essay *Is social media good or bad for young people?* Choose an article (not a blog) and analyze the introduction and conclusion.**
 - How effective is the introduction? What about the conclusion?
 - Which of the Key features from the Factsheet does the writer use? What is the effect?
- 2**  **In pairs, discuss the differences between an introduction and a conclusion.**
 - What is the purpose of each?
 - What is the main difference?
- 3** **Open your essay and go to the paragraph marked *Introduction*. Look at the Key features of an introduction on the Factsheet. Draft one sentence for each bullet point.**
- 4** **Which of the sentences you wrote in Exercise 3 work best? Which ones don't work?**
 - Choose the ones you want to use in your essay.
 - Draft your introduction. Remember to retain the thesis statement.
- 5** **Now, look at the Key features of a conclusion on the Factsheet. Draft one sentence for each bullet point.**
- 6** **Which of the sentences you wrote in Exercise 5 work best? Which ones don't work?**
 - Choose the ones you want to use in your essay.
 - Draft your conclusion. Remember to refer back to the thesis statement.
- 7**  **In pairs, compare introductions and conclusions.**
Consider the following questions:
 - Does the introduction set up the essay well?
 - Does it place the essay in context?
 - Does it make you want to read on?
 - Does the conclusion draw together the main ideas in the essay?
 - Does it make you think?
 - Are there any spelling or grammar mistakes?

Reflect

- 8** **Think about the lesson. Answer the following questions, and make notes.**
 - What's easy about writing introductions and conclusions?
 - What's difficult?
 - Does leaving the introduction until the end make things easier for you?
 - Do you feel more confident about starting and finishing your essay about social media?