

Writing Introductions: Different Leads

Most introductions have three basic parts: an attention-getting lead, a bridge or transition from the lead to the thesis, and the thesis statement.

A lead is important to an introduction. It captures the attention of the reader. An interesting lead is a “hook” that encourages the reader to keep reading. Many times, the lead does not seem to relate to the topic. The bridge serves the purpose of connecting the lead to the topic and thesis statement.

There are several types of leads.

Factoid: The writer gives an interesting fact or piece of trivia.

Personal story: The writer tells an anecdote or gives a personal opinion on a different subject.

Metaphor: The writer tells about an unrelated item that will be compared to the topic.

Surprise statement: The writer gives a surprising opinion or startling idea.

Description: The writer paints a picture of a scene or event to put the reader in a setting.

Below are two thesis statements. Write two different types of leads for each thesis statement.

1. Children should have limited access to the Internet.

Lead 1

Lead 2

Type: _____

Type: _____

2. Only modern literature should be studied in school.

Lead 1

Lead 2

Type: _____

Type: _____

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Answers: Student's choice

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