



SIX TRAITS, INTRODUCTIONS, PARAGRAPHS, TRANSITIONS & CONCLUSIONS

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SIX TRAITS OF WRITING

- Ideas and Content

- Organization

- Voice



- Conventions

- Sentence Fluency

- Word Choice



- Details. Clarity. What you have to say.

- Put your ideas and thoughts in proper order.

- Is the author's voice print on the writing piece.

- Spelling, punctuation, paragraphs, and grammar.

- It is about the sentences flowing, being a variety of lengths, and making sense.

- Paint a picture in your reader's mind with the words you choose.

Five Types of Introductions

1. Sharing an unusual fact

- Beginning your writing with a startling or interesting fact can make your audience want to keep reading.

2. Presenting a Lively Description

- A vivid description can capture your reader's imagination and welcome them into a whole new world.

3. Asking a Question

- Asking a question in your introduction can get your readers thinking about the answer your writing will provide.

4. Relating an Incident

- An interesting or humorous story can draw readers into your writing by making them part of the action.

5. Using Dialogue

- Quoting people's own words can add interest to an introduction.

What type of introduction am I?

Some gardeners talk to their plants. Scientists have learned that plants can “talk,” too. During long periods without rain, trees make high-pitched sounds. The message: They’re weak from thirst.

National Geographic World, “The Trees Are Talking”

What type of introduction am I?

“O.K., start the engine, put your foot on the brake, and put it in D for dumb,” Bob Knight said.

Ely White, terror etched on her face, did as instructed.

“Now, remember, I don’t know anything,” Ms. White said.

N.R. Kleinfield,
“It’s a Harrowing Drive on the Learning Curve”

What type of introduction am I?

Do you eat like a bird and still gain weight?
Believe it or not, you may be eating in your
Sleep.

Sleepeating is an unusual but far-from-rare phenomenon, according to Neil Kavey, director of the Sleep Disorders Center at New York's Columbia Presbyterian Medical Center. Kavey recently wired up three people thought to be sleepeaters in a scientific attempt to show that they would try to eat in their sleep. Sure enough, they did.

Paul McCarthy, "Snacking in Your Sleep"

What type of introduction am I?

Winter came upon us like the sudden opening of a tomb. Almost overnight it seemed that the last multicolored banners of autumn leaves had been wrenched from the trees by the wind and built up in great moldering piles that smelled like plum cake when you kicked them. Then came the early-morning frost that turned the long grass white and crisp as biscuit, made your breath hang in pale cobwebs in front of you and nipped at your fingertips with the viciousness of a slamming door.

Gerald Durrell, *A Bevy of Beasts*

What type of introduction am I?

The roar of the howler monkey boomed through the treetops. Down below, four kids stopped walking and looked up. But the jungle was too dark and thick with leaves for them to see anything. Henry tried to copy the monkey's call. But his yell sounded more like a small hoot than a howl.

“No question who's king of this jungle,” Cynthia said with a little chuckle.

Chris Wille, “Kids Saved It!”

Making Paragraphs

- Topic Sentence
- Which is the main idea of the paragraph

Making paragraphs

- Elaboration
 - Supports the idea.
 - Is the details and/or the evidence.
- Types of evidence that you could use to elaborate on your idea...
 - Facts/statistics
 - Quotes
 - Sensory details
 - Incidents
 - Examples
 - Graphic aids

Making paragraphs

- Summary
 - Which just sums up your main idea.
 - Also known as conclusions and/or warrants for just summing up your main idea.

Paragraphs

- Begin a new paragraph when:
 - A new idea is introduced or the topic changes
 - There is a major change in setting or action
 - The speaker in a dialogue changes.

Paragraphs

- Make sure your paragraphs include:
 - Only one main idea
 - Adequate elaboration
 - No unrelated details
 - A logical order of presentation

Transitions

- Transitions are:
 - words that join ideas in sentences.
 - words between paragraphs.
 - Signal words that indicate informational text types. This is VERY IMPORTANT for you to remember this for later and DO NOT lose these notes.

Transitions

- Chronological order
 - First
 - Second
 - Always
 - Then
 - Next
 - Later
 - Soon
 - Before
 - Finally
 - Earlier
 - Afterwards
 - Meanwhile
 - Eventually
 - Next week
 - tomorrow

Transitions

- Spatial Order

- In front
- Behind
- Next to
- Nearest
- Lowest
- Above
- Below
- Outside
- Underneath
- On the left
- On the right
- In the middle

Transitions

- Degree
 - Mainly
 - Strongest
 - Weakest
 - First
 - Second
 - Third
 - Most important
 - Less important
 - Equally important
 - Most significant
 - Least significant
 - best

Transitions

- Comparison
 - Similarly
 - Likewise
 - In addition
 - Like
 - Than
 - As
 - Neither...nor
 - Either...or
 - By comparison

Transitions

- Contrast

- However
- By contrast
- Yet
- But
- Unlike
- Instead
- Nevertheless
- As opposed to
- On the other hand

Transitions

- Cause and Effect

- Since
- Because
- Thus
- Therefore
- So
- Due to
- As a consequence
- Accordingly
- For this reason
- If...then
- As a result
- Owing to

FIVE TYPES OF CONCLUSIONS

1. Restating the main idea
 - Remind readers of your main points
2. Asking a question
 - Ask readers a question that sums up what you have told them and leaves them with something to think about.

CONCLUSIONS

3. Making a recommendation
 - Tell your readers what you want them to do
4. Ending with the last event
 - End with the last thing that happens
5. Generalize your information
 - Make a general statement that shows the overall importance of what you have said

My introduction, transitions, paragraphs, and conclusions....

“Next!” Reverberated through the snakelike train of people as muffled conversations filled with excitement and laughter surrounded me and my nephew.

Above, the blistering sun beat down on the asphalt pavement. Sweat drizzled down my back making my clothes sticky and off my forehead into my Nike sunglasses. We were at the mercy of the sun with no shade close at hand. I removed my sunglasses to wipe them, but the glare from the sun reflected off the steel and metal of the ride, squinting I wiped my brow. The heat of my nephew’s hand bore into mine like a razor cutting paper, but we stood waiting patiently in line like everyone else.

Meanwhile, the barbecue smoke of hamburgers and the sugary aroma of cotton candy floated on the air like a ballerina and my stomach churned in hunger, but I couldn’t eat until after this ride. The stale air lingered and dryness engulfed my mouth, but the line kept moving forward.

Blue, red, and yellow streaked past us like the wind blowing through the trees. Caught on that streak were cries of horror and sounds of screeching brakes washing over the conversations leaving voice imprints on my ears every five minutes.

Eventually, it was our turn. “Ready?” I asked, but he just shook his head up and down. We each took a seat. Nervous we gripped the hot steel bar in front of us. The sweat soaking into my clothes. Each of us lost in his/her own thoughts as the ride jerked forward and launched into space. Backwards, up, down, nothingness all around.

“Wicked is the best ride ever!” my nephew yelled with an adrenaline rush like eating ice cream too fast as the ride came to an abrupt halt snapping my head forward then back.

Finally released from the ride and descending the steps from the “Wicked,” my nephew said smiling, “Let’s go again.”

Descriptive paper requirements

Requirements

1. One to one and half pages (1-1 ½) in length.
2. Must use one of the introduction types as presented in class.
3. Use transitions between paragraphs.
4. Must use one of the conclusion types as presented in class.
5. Cannot use the words: see, hear, touch, taste, and smell in your paper. Use synonyms to those words.
6. You cannot tell your reader what you are describing until the end of the paper.
7. Paragraph correctly

Descriptive paper requirements continues.....

Requirements

8. Use correct spelling.
9. Handwrite the paper.
10. Second rough draft is due on Friday, 9/10.
11. Final paper will be due on Wednesday, 9/15.
12. Friday, Monday, & Tuesday will discuss revising, editing, and proofreading.