## Intro and Conclusion Samples

Introductory paragraphs should be interesting and make someone want to read a paper. Intros should not use information that the writer will repeat in body paragraphs; therefore, write the thesis and body paragraphs first. This will remove that tendency.

Here are some examples of introductory paragraphs:

Student name

Teacher name

Class name

Date

Title Pending

           According to FoxNews.com, Lori Drew, a mother charged with some type of online misbehavior targeting a teenaged girl, is now being taunted online herself. Allegedly a co-worker and Lori Drew created a MySpace persona belonging to a fictitious boy, Joshua. He became involved with Megan Meier, a former friend of Drew’s daughter. The girls had a quarrel over another boy at school. After these grown women established a strong emotional bond on Megan’s part toward Joshua, they orchestrated his extremely demeaning breakup where he mentioned that the world would be better off without her. Megan hanged herself in her bedroom with a belt. Bullying may not be new but it has certainly diversified and perhaps become more pervasive. Even simple schoolyard squabbles have become newsworthy. In the Daily Breezearticle “Joke Award No Joke to Student,” Renee Mollanen describes a minor incident at Williams Elementary School. Bullying leads to low self-esteem, depression, and anxiety amongst young children and teens, and yet, Ms. Marquez, one of Meagan’s middle school teachers, should not be seriously reprimanded for presenting her student, Meagan Doyon, with an insulting award, which made her a target for cruelty among her peers.

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           What constitutes bullying? Some people think that picking on someone just once would be considered rude but that bullying entails repeated abuse. Insulting someone based on ethnicity demonstrates a type of bullying that also leans toward the category referred to as a hate crime. Nowadays, children and teens have more ways to be bullied because of FaceBook and other social media. Schools have difficulty dealing with abuse that does not seem to be in their jurisdiction; nonetheless, the damaging attacks must be stopped somehow. People believe that education about the effects of bullying can, at times, help to eradicate some such instances. In the Daily Breezearticle “Joke Award No Joke to Student,” Renee Mollanen describes a serious problem at Williams Elementary School. Because bullying leads to low self-esteem, depression, and anxiety amongst young children and teens, Ms. Marquez should be seriously reprimanded for presenting her student, Meagan Doyon, with an insulting award, which made her a target for cruelty among her peers.

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Toughen Up, Cupcake!

           “Conflict builds character. Crisis defines it” (Steven V. Thulon). Truly, people need to have little problems to practice with, so they can develop the knowledge, fortitude and gumption to handle more serious situations. Entertainment, especially disaster films, offers opportunities to consider one’s own bravery and sense of ethics as people consider how they would handle a similar situation. Most want to relate to the righteous victor. Emotionally healthy children have a favorite superhero, a role model that provides an ideal of strength and honor. But building a brave and moral foundation takes more than a fictitious champion. Coddled children never learn to withstand teasing. Spoiled children never learn to deal with disappointment. No one should be protected from emotional growth, but sometimes lessons can be quite harsh. For example, Renee Mollanen’s Daily Breeze article “Joke Award No Joke to Student” describes a conflict gone crisis regarding a bullying incident at Williams Elementary School. Because such attacks lead to low self-esteem, depression, and anxiety amongst young children and teens, Ms. Marquez should be seriously reprimanded for presenting her student, Meagan Doyon, with an insulting award, which made her a target for cruelty among her peers.

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Student name

Teacher name

Class name

Date – INTRO & CONCLUSION

Title pending

           According to AOLnews.com, one June night in 1993, a Lorena Bobbitt had suffered the last abuse from her husband, John Wayne, who upon returning home from a night of drinking, raped her. After he fell asleep, Mrs. Bobbitt cut off and took possession of his penis, drove away and tossed his manhood into a field. Radical feminists rallied in support and called her a hero. More rational people’s views ranged from pity, to disgust, but almost everyone had to smile just a little. Their fiasco became a national joke. Nonetheless, many people considered Lorena a symbol for abused women. Eventually, perhaps to redeem herself, the knife wielding wild woman established an anti-domestic violence organization called Lorena’s Red Wagon. The subjugation and victimization of women has been a topic of great interest in recent years, largely because of the feminist movement. Documentaries, protests, current events, stories and poetry have sought to educate society. Adrienne Rich’s 1951 poem “Aunt Jennifer’s Tigers” presents a subtle and symbolic reflection of the invisibility and powerlessness of women.

Rich’s incredible imagery shows the subtlety of abuse, which brilliantly mirrors the tendency to coerce victims to remain silent or make up excuses for any bruises. When abuse cannot be discerned, victims often become invisible to society, as women in general have sometimes felt. Lorena Bobbitt, by virtue of her violent reaction, certainly made herself quite visible. May her organization do the same for other women, before situations escalate.

**EXPLANATION FOR CONCLUSION: Notice that the intro topic is referred to at the end of the conclusion, not the beginning. Also, the conclusion reiterates the thesis but does not restate it directly.  The conclusion in these examples discounts Nixon's point one more time. A conclusion can make a recommendation, advocate some type of action, offer a critique, make a prediction, or a provide a combination of these.  A conclusion can be shorter than the intro and body paragraphs. It will not include new information.**

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Date – INTRO & CONCLUSION

Her Folly Unfolds

           People argue about the silliest things. For some, Coke and Pepsi are the same. Wait-staff in restaurants occasionally fail to let the customer know that the establishment serves one versus the other, but when the drink arrives, many customers know they did not get what they had asked for. Coke and Pepsi will send out spies to see if a restaurant serves someone its product when a customer asked for the other, which leads to legal actions and fines. On the other hand, arguments can become contentious because of the topic, such as women’s rights, discipline in schools, and spanking. The subject of parenting in general provides great fodder for discussion. The story “Through the Tunnel” by Doris Lessing exemplifies one type of parenting. Jael Nixon believes that Jerry’s mother has only adequate parenting skills because she “should have been a little more attentive,” but she adds that “[n]o mother is perfect so all in all she is a good parent.” Nixon’s overly generous assessment neglects the fact that Jerry’s mother is dangerously neglectful.

           Lessings’ story offers an excellent morsel to chew on. Certainly, people must concede the inaccuracy of Nixon’s argument. After all, the mother’s weakness speaks to all kinds of neglect. If Lessing would write a sequel, the son could end up dead in his next ridiculous adventure. Some decisions have much greater ramifications than choosing Coke or Pepsi.

TITLES

Enjoyable titles often employ literary techniques. They work well when concepts come from the conclusion or the last body paragraph. This gives people a sense of full-circle.

Or title the essay using the words from a popular song, poem or Bible verse.

[*https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List\_of\_book\_titles\_taken\_from\_literature*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_book_titles_taken_from_literature%20)

*Of Mice and Men* by John Steinback came from a stanza of Robert Burn’s “To a Mouse”

But Mouse, you are not alone,
In proving foresight may be vain:
**The best-laid schemes of mice and men**

Go oft awry,
And leave us nothing but grief and pain,
For promised joy!

*I know Why the Caged Bird Sings* by Maya Angelou came from “Sympathy” by Paul Laurence Dunbar

I know what the caged bird feels, alas!

    When the sun is bright on the upland slopes;

When the wind stirs soft through the springing grass,

And the river flows like a stream of glass;

    When the first bird sings and the first bud opes,

And the faint perfume from its chalice steals—

I know what the caged bird feels!

I know why the caged bird beats his wing

    Till its blood is red on the cruel bars;

For he must fly back to his perch and cling

When he fain would be on the bough a-swing;

    And a pain still throbs in the old, old scars

And they pulse again with a keener sting—

I know why he beats his wing!

I know why the caged bird sings, ah me,

    When his wing is bruised and his bosom sore,—

When he beats his bars and he would be free;

It is not a carol of joy or glee,

    But a prayer that he sends from his heart’s deep core,

But a plea, that upward to Heaven he flings—

**I know why the caged bird sings!**

*The Widening Gyre* by Robert B. Parker and *Things Fall Apart* by Chinua Achebe came from William Butler Yeats’ “The Second Coming.”

Turning and turning in **the widening**[**gyre**](https://en.wiktionary.org/wiki/gyre)
The falcon cannot hear the falconer;
**Things fall apart**; the centre cannot hold;
Mere anarchy is loosed upon the world,
The blood-dimmed tide is loosed, and everywhere
The ceremony of innocence is drowned;
The best lack all conviction, while the worst
Are full of passionate intensity.

Surely some [revelation](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Book_of_Revelation) is at hand;
Surely the [Second Coming](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Second_Coming) is at hand.
The Second Coming! Hardly are those words out
When a vast image out of [*Spiritus Mundi*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Spiritus_Mundi)
Troubles my sight: somewhere in sands of the desert
A shape with [lion body and the head of a man](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sphinx),
A gaze blank and pitiless as the sun,
Is moving its slow thighs, while all about it
Reel shadows of the indignant desert birds.
The darkness drops again; but now I know
That twenty centuries of stony sleep
Were vexed to nightmare by a rocking cradle,
And what rough beast, its hour come round at last,
Slouches towards [Bethlehem](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bethlehem) to be born?

*The Grapes of Wrath* by John Steinbeck came from “**Battle Hymn of the Republic” by Julia Ward Howe.**

**Mine eyes have seen the glory
Of the coming of the Lord**; **He is trampling out the vintage
Where the grapes of wrath are stored;**
**He hath loosed the fateful lightning
Of His terrible swift sword;
His truth is marching on.

*Chorus
Glory! Glory! Hallelujah!
Glory! Glory! Hallelujah!
Glory! Glory! Hallelujah!
His truth is marching on.*
I have seen Him in the**watchfires **Of a hundred circling camps
They have**builded**Him an altar
In the evening dews and damps;
I can read His righteous sentence
By the dim and flaring lamps;
His day is marching on.

*Chorus
Glory! Glory! Hallelujah!
Glory! Glory! Hallelujah!
Glory! Glory! Hallelujah!
His truth is marching on.*
He has sounded forth the trumpet
That shall never call retreat**; **He is sifting out the hearts of men
Before His**judgement**seat;
Oh, be swift, my soul, to answer Him;
Be jubilant, my feet;
Our God is marching on.

*Chorus
Glory! Glory! Hallelujah!
Glory! Glory! Hallelujah!
Glory! Glory! Hallelujah!
His truth is marching on.***

**In the beauty of the lilies
Christ was born across the sea**, **With a glory in His bosom
That transfigures you and me;
As He died to make men holy,
Let us die to make men free;
While God is marching on.

*Chorus
Glory! Glory! Hallelujah!
Glory! Glory! Hallelujah!
Glory! Glory! Hallelujah!
His truth is marching on.***

*Lillies of the Field* by William Edmund Barrett came from the Bible: Matthew 6:28

28 And why take ye thought for raiment? **Consider the lilies of the field**, how they grow; they toil not, neither do they spin:

29 And yet I say unto you, That even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these.

30 Wherefore, if God so clothe the grass of the field, which to day is, and to morrow is cast into the oven, shall he not much more clothe you, O ye of little faith?

Once Solomon's kingship was firmly established, God appeared to Solomon in a dream and promised him anything he asked. Solomon chose understanding and discernment, asking God to help him govern his people well and wisely. God was so pleased with the request that he granted it, along with great riches, honor, and longevity. He solved the baby quandary. And later fell into temptation and disgrace.