

Literary Essay Introductions

Introductions should include:

- ① **Hook** (introduces broad topic related to this essay – such as “justice” or “loyalty”)
- ② **Connector** (connects broad topic to the literary work being analyzed)
- ③ **Thesis Statement** (specific idea being analyzed)
- ④ Mention of **subtopics**

Example introduction to: Is our society similar to Panem, the fictional society in *The Hunger Games*?

① Throughout human history, violence—even murder—has always been a problem. ② While the cruel world of Panem, where children are forced to fight to the death in an arena for entertainment, at first seems very different from our society, they are quite comparable. ③ In *The Hunger Games*, Suzanne Collins demonstrates our own society is actually frighteningly similar to the ④ violence, beauty, and sacrifice that exists in her novel.

Literary Essay Body Paragraph(s)

Body Paragraphs should include:

- | | |
|--------------------------------|--|
| ① Transition words | ④ Evidence/Quote (using quotation marks and page number) (x3) |
| ② Introductory sentence | ⑤ Reasonable explanation (x3) |
| ③ Example or Claim (x3) | ⑥ Concluding sentence |

Example of one body paragraph:

① The foremost comparison ② from the dystopian society of Panem and current day is the similarity of violence. ③ Vicious misconduct is a prominent theme in the *Hunger Games*. ④ It is seen when Katniss states, “Destroying things is much easier than making them (p. 211).” ⑤ This validates that destruction and violence have been engrained in the people of their society. Likewise, violent crime is also a major factor in our world today. There is much violence shown on the news. There are many live streams of shootings that appear on newscasts today whether it is from police or terrorists. ⑥ The average person in America is exposed to just as much violence through television daily as those of Panem who must view the live telecast of the “Games” in which the innocent fight to the death.

Literary Essay Conclusions

Conclusions **should** include:

- ① **Restatement of thesis** (reword with same meaning)
- ② **Summation** of key points
- ③ Explanation of **importance of analysis**

Conclusions **could** also include:

- ④ Furthering of knowledge/next step
- ⑤ Connection to world
- ⑥ Solidification of own perspective against opposing view
- ⑦ Revelation of how your thinking about the claim changed throughout this process
- ⑧ Possible lesson learned

Example of conclusion:

② As shown previously, Suzanne Collins creates a stark comparison between *The Hunger Games'* Panem and our own pandemonium today. ① Through the use of the themes of violence, beauty, and sacrifice it is seen that human nature does not change that drastically over time even in a new-age world such as the one she imagined. ③ Analyzing the two cultures side by side shows how similar problems produce similar inhumane solutions if history repeats itself. ④ Societies need to learn to be more peaceful while respecting everyone's needs in order to avoid the dystopian chaos that may be looming in the future.