



HOW TO WRITE AN INTRODUCTION?

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Intro

- The Introduction presents the background knowledge that readers need so that they can appreciate how the findings of the paper are an advance on current knowledge in the field.
- A key skill is to be able to say the same things that have been said many times before but in a different, interesting, intriguing way.

Intro

You have to give the reader the tools for understanding the meaning and motivation of your experiments.

Tell your readers how you plan to develop your topic. Give them a roadmap to follow show them what your line of argument is.

You need to have a deep knowledge about everything that has been previously
Written on the topic and decide what is important for the reader to know.

What questions should I answer in the intro?

- · What is the problem?
- · Are there any existing solutions (i.e. in the literature)?
- · Which solution is the best?
- · What is its main limitation? (i.e. What gap am I hoping to fill?)
- · What do I hope to achieve?
- · Have I achieved what I set out to do?

What should I include in the intro?

1. definition of the topic plus background

- The sentence gives information that readers should already be familiar with and suggests why the topic is important and of interest. It will help readers to understand and why you are investigating this area and how you hope to extend the knowledge.

2. accepted state of the art plus problem to be resolved

The authors now move from this general context to the specific area of their research

3. authors' objectives

Here the authors outline their major objectives, i.e. how they intend to fill the gap.

What should I include in the intro?

4. introduction to the literature

This introduces the background literature that the authors intend to refer to in order to motivate their particular research. It makes a reference to current insufficient knowledge of the topic.

5. survey of pertinent literature

This part reviews the literature in the author's precise field. As in the previous part, it often draws attention to problems that have still not been solved.

The length of the literature review (i.e. Parts 4 and 5) ranges from a paragraph to several pages.

What should I include in the intro?

6. Aim of the study

- This statement of the goal to be reached is essential in any Introduction. It should be in a separate paragraph and expressed so that the referee (and readers) are 100% clear about the objectives of your research and the expected outcome.

Let's write

- Establishing the importance of the topic for the world or society
- X is a fundamental property of
- X is fast becoming a key instrument in
- X is a common disorder characterised by
- X plays an important role in the maintenance of
- Xs are the most potent anti-inflammatory agents known.
- X is a major public health problem, and the main cause of
- Xs are one of the most rapidly declining groups of insects in
- In the new global economy, X has become a central issue for
- X is the leading cause of death in western-industrialised countries.

Let's write

- Establishing the importance of the topic
- Investigating X is a continuing concern within
- Central to the entire discipline of X is the concept of
- X and Y have been an object of research since the 1960s
- X is a major area of interest within the field of
- The issue of X has received considerable critical attention.
- X has been studied by many researchers using
- One of the most significant current discussions in legal and moral philosophy is ...

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Let's write

- Establishing the importance of the topic (time frame given)
- One of the most important events of the 1970s was
- Traditionally, Xs have subscribed to the belief that
- Recent developments in X have heightened the need for
- In recent years, there has been an increasing interest in
- Recent trends in X have led to a proliferation of studies that
- Recent developments in the field of X have led to a renewed interest in
- Recently, researchers have shown an increased interest in
- The past decade has seen the rapid development of X in many

Let's write

- Synopsis of literature
- Previous studies have reported
- Recent evidence suggests that
- Several attempts have been made to
- Studies of X show the importance of
- A number of researchers have reported
- Factors found to be influencing X have been explored in several studies.
- In the past two decades a number of researchers have sought to determine
- A considerable amount of literature has been published on X. These studies
- Surveys such as that conducted by Smith (1988) showed that
- The first serious discussions and analyses of X emerged during the 1970s with

Let's write

- **Highlighting a problem**
- However, a major problem with this kind of application is
- Lack of X has existed as a health problem for many years.
- However, these rapid changes are having a serious effect on
- Despite its safety and efficacy, X suffers from several major drawbacks:
- However, research has consistently shown that these students lack
- There is increasing concern that some Xs are being disadvantaged
- Despite its long clinical success, X has a number of problems in use.
- Questions have been raised about the safety of prolonged use of
- Along with this growth in X, however, there is increasing concern over

Let's write

- Highlighting a controversy in the field of study
- To date there has been little agreement on what
- One major issue in early X research concerned
- The issue has grown in importance in light of recent
- One observer has already drawn attention to the paradox in
- Questions have been raised about the safety of prolonged use of
- In many Xs, a debate is taking place between Ys and Zs concerning
- This concept has recently been challenged by X studies demonstrating
- The debate about X has gained fresh prominence with many arguing that
- More recently, literature has emerged that offers contradictory findings about
- One of the most significant current discussions in legal and moral philosophy is

Let's write

- **Highlighting inadequacies of previous studies**
- Researchers have not treated X in much detail.
- Previous studies of X have not dealt with
- Half of the studies evaluated failed to specify whether
- Most studies in the field of X have only focused on
- Most studies in X have only been carried out in a small number of areas.
- The generalisability of much published research on this issue is problematic.
- The experimental data are rather controversial, and there is no general agreement about
- Such expositions are unsatisfactory because they
- The research to date has tended to focus on X rather than Y.
- Research on the subject has been mostly restricted to limited comparisons of

Let's write

- Highlighting a knowledge gap in the field of study
- What is not yet clear is the impact of X on
- No previous study has investigated X .
- There has been little quantitative analysis of
- The neurobiological basis of this X is poorly understood.
- Until recently, there has been no reliable evidence that
- In addition, no research has been found that surveyed
- Little is known about X and it is not clear what factors
- This indicates a need to understand the various perceptions of X that exist among

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Let's write

- Indicating the focus, aim, argument of a short paper
- This paper contests the claim that
- This paper will review the research conducted on
- This paper will focus on/examine/give an account of
- This paper seeks to remedy these problems by analysing the literature of
- This paper examines the significance of X in the rise of
- This essay critically examines/discusses/traces
- In this paper I argue that
- The central thesis of this paper is that
- The aim of the paper is to provide a conceptual theoretical framework based on....

Let's write

- **Stating the purpose of research**
- The major objective of this study was to investigate
- The aim of this study was to clarify several aspects of
- The aim of this study is to investigate the differences between X and Y.
- The aim of this research project has therefore been to try and establish what
- The main aim of this investigation is to assess the doses and risks associated with
- The aim of this study is to shine new light on these debates through an examination of
- The objectives of this research are to determine whether
- The main purpose of this study is to develop an understanding of

Let's write

- **Outlining the structure**
- The main questions/issues addressed in this paper are: a), b and c).
- This paper has been divided into four parts. The first part deals with
- The essay has been organised in the following way.
- This paper reviews the evidence for
- This paper begins by It will then go on to
- The first section of this paper will examine
- This paper first gives a brief overview of the recent history of X.
- My thesis is composed of four themed chapters.
- The overall structure of the study takes the form of six chapters, including this introductory chapter.
- Chapter Two begins by laying out the theoretical dimensions of the research, and looks at how