

# Introduction



The introduction should convey the pattern of organization of your main ideas that you will follow in the paper and build to the thesis sentence, which is a clear, concise statement of the specific position you will explore in your paper. The introduction is the key paragraph of your paper. Get the right key and the door will open to the rest of your ideas, inviting the reader to come right in. Some general guidelines of your introduction:

**DO** capture the reader's attention.

**DO** directly address the topic of the paper.

**DO** provide necessary context for your topic.

**DO** clearly explain your career choice.

**DO** create focus for your paper.

**DO** capture your main ideas relating to the career requirements, duties, opportunities and advancement.

- **DO NOT** say what you are going to say.
  - Examples
    - My paper will be about ...
    - I am going to tell you about ...
    - The purpose of this essay is ...
    - The reason I am writing is ...
- **DO NOT** appear inferior.
  - Examples
    - I am not sure, but ...
    - I think I will be a ...
    - I guess I will choose ...
    - In my humble opinion ...
- **DO NOT** bore me by:
  - Examples
    - Dilly dallying. Get to the point
    - Beating around the bush.
    - Fumbling around.
    - Using tired, worn out cliches
    - Leaving me thinking “So what.”
- **DO NOT**
  - use first (“I”) or second person (“you”)
  - use street talk “like ya know” or contractions.
  - forget that this is a formal paper.

