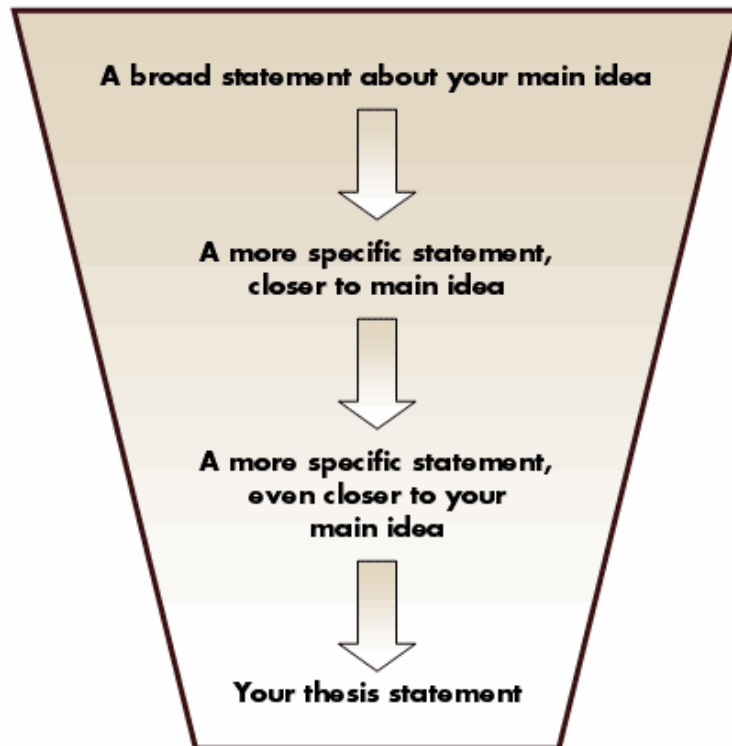


Writing an Introduction

Developing an Introduction: The Top-Down Model



What is the function of an introduction?

An introduction

- captures your audience's attention.
- gives background on your topic.
- develops interest in your topic.
- guides your reader to your thesis.

How can I write an introduction?

There are three basic ways to write an introduction:

1. You can write the introduction after you write the body of your essay.
2. You can write the introduction before you write the body of your essay.
3. You can rough out the introduction first and then focus and revise it once you have written your essay.

Many people write a rough draft and from that find out what their purpose really is and what they really believe. Then they revise the focus, language, or order of their introduction. This sequence -- of drafting an introduction and then revising and refining it once the body of the paper is sketched out -- is *very* common.