

Writing Your Introduction

This exercise is designed to help you to improve your introduction to include:

- Establishing the overall topic and explaining the relevance and significance of the essay question to that topic
- Explaining the background and context and defining the scope of the discussion
- Highlighting key concepts or ideas
- Signposting the broad organisational structure of the essay

Note: Go to **File > Make a copy...** to create your own version of the template that you can edit.

You may find it useful to complete the '[Your essay question](#)' template first to identify exactly what the question is asking you to do.

Step 1 – Understanding your essay question

Write your assignment title in the box below

Now re-write the task/title in your own words - what are you being asked to do?

What I am being asked to do is...

Step 2 – Writing the introduction

Use the information from the previous box to write a sentence establishing the overall topic and to explain the relevance and significance of the essay question to that topic

Add a sentence to explain the background and context and to define the scope of your discussion

Now explain any relevant key concepts or ideas relevant to the question

Finally, signpost the broad organisational structure of your essay

Step 3 – Putting it all together

Now put all of your points together into a paragraph, editing and redrafting your language as necessary, to make your paragraph clear, concise and cohesive:

