

Introductions & Conclusions

Tonight:

- ✓ Upload final draft to turnitin by 11:59

Tomorrow: You'll turn in all the things!

- ✓ Final Draft
- ✓ Peer Review
- ✓ Rough Draft
- ✓ Notebook



Introduction Paragraph

1. Hook
2. Introduce the original idea (i.e. hell, power, identity...)
3. Introduce the novel/author
4. Thesis

DO NOT INCLUDE ANY EVIDENCE OR RESEARCH HERE.
NO PARENTHETICAL CITATIONS. GENERAL IDEAS ONLY.



In both the Introduction AND the Conclusion:

- Use active voice!
 - Be precise and cutting about who is taking credit for those active verbs.
- Be bold!
- Use power verbs!
- Be edgy!
 - Say things that are arguable (and suit your essay)!
- Use short, choppy sentences for the hook and final thought.

Introduction Exemplar

Creating the Creator

Humans have continually attempted to find reasoning within our existence. From the great Greek Gods to the The Big Bang Theory, society has chased the truth. This mystery transcends comprehension; however, hope thrives upon understanding. In times of distress or confusion, society looks to whatever admirable and powerful thing created them. Civilizations quest for understanding, a fact that has been documented for millennia. As people continue to gain experience, and lose innocence, they become closer to finding the truth. William Blake's "The Tyger" illustrates people's unyielding quest to discover truth, as shown through the poem's contemplation of religion's purpose, the symbolic contrast between innocence and experience, and the unique comparison of admirable and intimidated tones.

Introduction Exemplar

✓ Power Verbs

Creating the Creator

Humans have continually attempted to find reasoning within our existence. From the great Greek Gods to the The Big Bang Theory, society **chases** the truth. This mystery **transcends** comprehension; however, hope **thrives** upon understanding. In times of distress or confusion, society looks to whatever admirable and powerful thing created them. Civilizations **quest** for understanding, a fact that has been **documented** for millennia. As people gain experience, and lose innocence, they become closer to finding the truth. Truth is exactly what Romantic poet William Blake was after. Blake's "The Tyger" illustrates people's unyielding quest to discover truth, as shown through the poem's contemplation of religion's purpose, the symbolic contrast between innocence and experience, and the unique comparison of admirable and intimidated tones.

Introduction Exemplar

✓ Consistent tone

Creating the Creator

Humans have continually **attempted to find** reasoning within our existence. From the great Greek Gods to the The Big Bang Theory, society chases the truth. This **mystery** transcends comprehension; however, hope thrives upon **understanding**. In times of distress or **confusion**, society looks to whatever **admirable** and **powerful** thing created them. Civilizations **quest** for understanding, a fact that has been documented for millennia. As people gain experience, and lose innocence, they become closer to finding the **truth**. Truth is exactly what Romantic poet William Blake was after. Blake's "The Tyger" illustrates people's **unyielding quest** to discover truth, as shown through the poem's **contemplation** of religion's purpose, the symbolic contrast between **innocence** and **experience**, and the unique comparison of **admirable** and **intimidated** tones.

Introduction Exemplar

- ✓ Bold statements.
- ✓ Short, choppy sentences

Creating the Creator

Humans have continually attempted to find reasoning within our existence. From the great Greek Gods to the The Big Bang Theory, **society has chased the truth**. This mystery transcends comprehension; however, hope thrives upon understanding. In times of distress or confusion, society looks to whatever admirable and powerful thing created them. **Civilizations quest for understanding**, a fact that has been documented for millennia. **As people continue to gain experience, and lose innocence, they become closer to finding the truth**. William Blake's "The Tyger" illustrates people's unyielding quest to discover truth, as shown through the poem's contemplation of religion's purpose, the symbolic contrast between innocence and experience, and the unique comparison of admirable and intimidated tones.

My rant on passive voice

- aka -

You are not Yoda! (Yet.)





Avoid passive voice like the plague!

1. Identify it.

- ▶ There is more to this mystery than a sense of comprehension, but there lies a hope in understanding.
- ▶ This quest for understanding is documented throughout time as civilizations try to make sense of the world around them.



You are not Yoda! *(Yet.)*

1. Identify it.

- ▶ **There is** more to this mystery than a sense of comprehension, but **there lies** a hope in understanding.
- ▶ This quest for understanding **is documented** throughout time as civilizations try to make sense of the world around them.



Avoid passive voice like the plague!

2. Give the power to your verbs.

- ▶ There is more to this mystery than a sense of comprehension, but there lies a hope in understanding.
- ▶ This quest for understanding is documented throughout time as civilizations try to make sense of the world around them.



You are not Yoda! *(Yet.)*

2. Give the power to your verbs.

- ▶ There is more to this mystery than a sense of **comprehension**, but there lies a **hope** in understanding.
- ▶ This **quest** for understanding is **documented** throughout time as civilizations try to make sense of the world around them.

Avoid passive voice like the plague!

- ~~There is more to this mystery than a sense of **comprehension**, but there lies a **hope** in understanding.~~
- This mystery **transcends comprehension**; however, **hope thrives** upon understanding.
- ~~This **quest** for understanding is **documented** throughout time as civilizations try to make sense of the world around them.~~
- Civilizations **quest** for understanding, a fact that has been **documented** for millennia.

Conclusion Paragraph

1. Restate your thesis
2. Recap your main points
 - Think conclusions:
 - 1) What is the original idea the “your” author is recycling from history?
 - 2) What is the message that “your” author has about that idea for the world?
 - 3) How is this message complex?
 - 4) Is her/his message heeded in today’s world? How do you know?
3. Make it matter...

DO NOT INTRODUCE ANY NEW IDEAS/EVIDENCE HERE. JUST “LEVEL UP” WHAT YOU’VE ALREADY WRITTEN.



Exemplar Conclusion

Through the overall examination of religion, the shift from innocence to experience, and the contrast between tones, Blake's "The Tyger" highlights people's never ending quest to discover truth, especially in a time as devastating as the French Revolution. In times of extreme distress and violence, people will continue to look toward religion in order to feel a sense of comprehension and hope. Hopefully, as time progresses, individuals will not let their interpretation of religion dictate their actions in a negative way. Let religion be an outlet for hope, inspiration, and kindness, as opposed to fear and confusion.

Exemplar Conclusion

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Conclusion: Be bold!

- ~~Hopefully, as time progresses, individuals will not let their interpretation of religion dictate their actions in a negative way.~~
- Religion's place is for hope and inspiration. The individual alone dictates the influence can have over their life, and he does so by carefully examining the truth it contains. Only after this can religion be a true source of power *to* the individual instead of *over* the individual.
- Let religion be an outlet for hope, inspiration, and kindness, as opposed to fear and confusion.

Make it matter:

- ▶ Make it personal
 - ▶ Force your reader to relate to your ideas on a personal level.
- ▶ Hit home the significance of the **original** idea, why it's been reiterated (in various forms) for thousands of years, why it matters to the human race. Go big. Make your reader wince, cry, or laugh.
- ▶ Go full circle to your introduction.
 - ▶ If you said something clever in your first sentence, allude to it here.
 - ▶ If you come up with something heavy to mention here, consider finding a way to incorporate it into your intro.



Polished Essays

- ▶ As a reader of your take-home essays, I know you had time to polish, perfect, and rework. Therefore, unlike when I read your timed essays, I expect:
 - ▶ cohesiveness
 - ▶ crescendo
 - ▶ connectivity