

# HOW TO CREATE AN INTRODUCTION

CASCADIA COLLEGE

## THE INTRODUCTION

*-THE GOALS OF INTRODUCTIONS IS TO (BUT NOT LIMITED TO):*

- 1.) Getting the reader interested in your topic
- 2.) Giving background information about your topic

HERE ARE SOME DIFFERENT STRATEGIES GETTING YOUR READER INTERESTED & GIVING BACKGROUND INFORMATION

*-GETTING THE READER'S ATTENTION:*

**--Present an interesting fact** (ex. Did you know that O.J. Simpson was originally cast to star in, *The Terminator*.)

**--A generalization** (ex. There are many places in the world to go on a fantastic vacation with hot weather.)

**--Start with a short anecdote** (ex. Last summer I went on an amazing vacation with my family.)

**--Start with a shocking statement** (ex. The world will be extinct in fifty years if we don't stop pollution.)

*-GIVING BACKGROUND INFORMATION:*

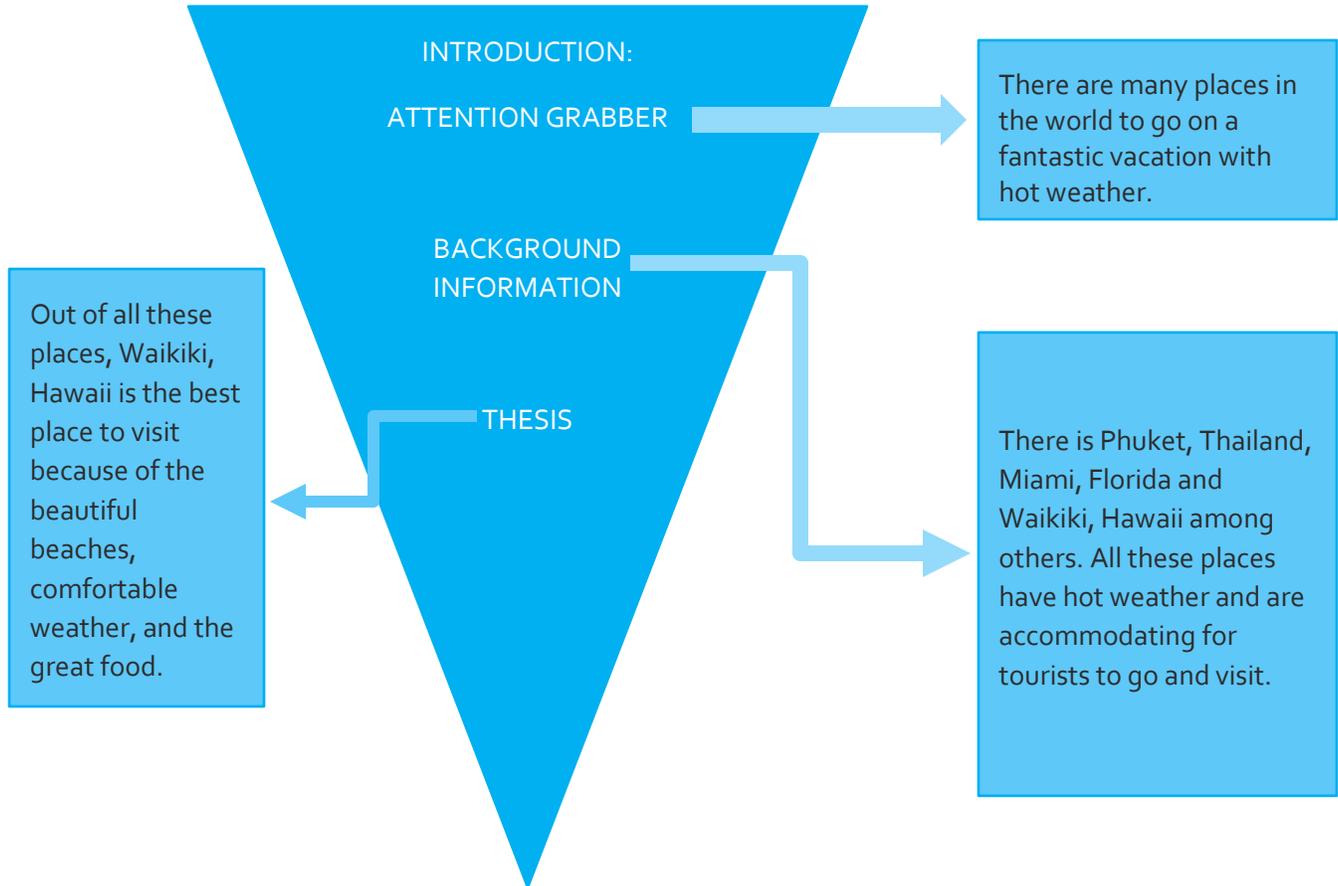
After you have tried to obtain the reader's attention, you should give some information that will help you transition to your thesis.

(Ex.) There are many places in the world to go on a fantastic vacation with hot weather. There is Phuket, Thailand, Miami, Florida and Waikiki, Hawaii amongst others. All these places have hot weather and are accommodating for tourists to go and visit.

Can we give more information? If we can, what other type of information can we give? Write your thoughts below.

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## Introduction Graphic



An introduction should start with an attention grabber, then progress to background information about the topic you are going to write about. The end of your introduction should be narrowed down to your thesis statement. A solid introduction can be about 1-2 paragraphs in length.

*\*Important note: A thesis should never be in a form of a question. For example, "Where is the best place to go on a vacation?" is not a thesis statement because it does not make a claim and does not form an argument.*

# HOW TO CREATE AN EFFECTIVE THESIS STATEMENT

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## THE GOALS OF A THESIS STATEMENT

1. To express the main idea of the essay
2. Make a claim about a topic that other people might argue
3. Usually comes at the end of an introduction; can be one or two sentences long
4. A thesis statement should include a **topic** and a **claim** (i.e. **Students who use the writing center (Topic) can significantly improve their writing skills working with a tutor. (Claim)**)

## POINTS TO REMEMBER ABOUT THESIS STATEMENTS

*-Make a claim, don't just state a fact:*

**-Factual Statement:** In order to graduate you have to take a multi-cultural studies class.

**-Thesis Statement:** Students can improve their understanding of different cultures and perspectives which will transcend the classroom if they take a multi-cultural studies class.

**-Factual Statement:** Money gives you more options in life.

**-Thesis Statement:** People who make an excessive amount of money tend to have a more enjoyable life, and more options at their disposal.

## PRACTICE: TRY TO REVISE

1.) Technology is becoming increasingly important.

Revise: \_\_\_\_\_

2.) I disagree with people who believe that soccer is a great sport.

Revise: \_\_\_\_\_

3.) These days' people do not get outside enough.

Revise: \_\_\_\_\_