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](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1jJFmYBhaztUSKISPrw45kUHK6-mg5DsnXgf2JgfxY0M)’ 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

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

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| What I am being asked to do is… |

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# 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

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

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

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## Finally, signpost the broad organisational structure of your essay

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# 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:

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|  | [**Skills Guides**](https://subjectguides.york.ac.uk/skills) |