**Writing a Developed and Detailed Introduction**

You know your introduction needs a clear thesis statement. But what else do you put in the paragraph? To answer that question, think about the purpose of an introduction:

* Introduce your topic
* Create interest
* Provide necessary background information
* Identify your main idea
* Preview the rest of your essay (thesis)

Your thesis statement will identify your main idea and preview the rest of your essay. Remember that this can be either one or two sentences. You will probably place your thesis at the end of your introduction paragraph. You can use the other sentences in your introduction to introduce your topic, create interest, and provide necessary background information.

## Writing Developed and Detailed Body Paragraphs

Your body paragraphs support the main idea of your essay. In each body paragraph, you also have a main idea that needs to be supported. The development and details you provide in each body paragraph support each paragraph’s main idea.

It is important to have a clear topic sentence for each of your body paragraphs. The topic sentence, which is typically near the beginning of your paragraph, serves as the thesis statement for the paragraph. Aside from a clear topic sentence, what else can you put in each body paragraph? The answer: sentences that provide supporting details for your paragraph’s main idea (AXES).

## Writing a Developed and Detailed Conclusion

It is important to have a strong conclusion, since this is the last chance you have to make an impression on your reader. The goal of your conclusion isn’t to introduce any new ideas, but to sum up everything you’ve written. Specifically, your conclusion should accomplish three major goals:

* Restate the main idea of your essay, or your thesis statement
* Summarize the sub points of your essay
* Leave the reader with an interesting final impression

Before writing, it is always a good idea to plan out your essay to be sure that you have effectively presented your topic and used sufficient detail to support your claim. One way to do that is by using an outline. Use the outline below to organize your thoughts. (If needed, attach an additional sheet of paper). This is due at the end of the period.

1. Introduction
2. Body Paragraphs (must have two)
3. Conclusion