

Powerful intros

Are you in an intro writing rut? Do you struggle to come up with a hook? Do the hooks you do produce feel uninspired? Sometimes coming up with something out of nothing can be intimidating. Sometimes the need to just get it over with leaves you with lackluster writing. So what can you do?

TIPS:

- Write the intro last!
- Write the quick intro and vow to come back and give it life later.
- Make a promise not to start with your argument in the form of a question as your hook.
- Try one of the A.S.S. techniques.

Already tried one or more of those things? Well, they say **imitation is the sincerest form of flattery**. So, why not try to model your intro on another effective one? Check out these intros below and see if you can pick one to imitate!

1

The clock ticks away, and the teacher keeps announcing the time left in the period. A nervous student in the back row taps his feet and looks from left to right. He needs to finish his test, but he is obviously struggling. He reaches for his phone, thinking the teacher won't notice. And she doesn't. It was that easy to cheat, and with schools and parents putting the emphasis on good grades, many kids do. It's less work and more payoff. Only when the pressure lifts and emphasis shifts to truly learning will students stop cheating.

2

People have decided that the most important person in their lives is... themselves. These days, most spend their time celebrating themselves and listening to echoes of their own ideas thanks to the proliferation of online platforms that allow them to do so. Social media is manufacturing a dangerous, narcissistic, isolated humanity.

3

How important are two simple words: "I do"? These two short words bring with them a life-long commitment. They are the words that cement a vow to a fellow human. But is America witnessing the end of marriage? With divorce rates climbing over decades and the onset of a

worldwide pandemic, finding a marriage partner seems daunting at best and ill-advised at worst. Yet, marriage is an honorable institution that IS actually worthwhile and beneficial. Getting married to a soulmate increases a person's happiness.

4

YouTube is like a drug -- it's highly addictive. Kids get sucked into clicking on one cute video of a panda eating bamboo or a cool teen narrating his way through the latest video game and three hours later, time has just evaporated. Of course, these videos are innocent enough, but they certainly are not a productive use of time, and kids can accidentally stumble across inappropriate, disturbing content. Therefore, YouTube is really a dangerous influence on children who waste an excessive amount of time, which could have been spent in better, more noble pursuits.

5

Enough statistics, ok? Let's just agree that handheld technology presents a ton of mind-boggling problems. From small social misunderstandings to the ability to commit crimes or cause deadly accidents, phones have become more problematic than helpful in our society.