



6.8 Introductions – student examples

Identify the four parts of an introduction in the following two student examples:

- general comment on the central topic
- tying the central topic to the text
- introduction of genre, title, author (and year)
- two-sentence summary.

Example 1

After a traumatic event, we humans can be completely stunted by grief, convinced that we will never ever get over it, whether it stems from a breakup, the loss of a family member, or something wholly different. In the short story "The Right Time to Fly" by Shirley Golden, we meet Marcus, a 29-year-old man who is in this position of being stunted by grief. He meets a young woman, who helps set him free from the depths of despair.

Example 2

We live in a time in which there is a generational and cultural paradigm shift. Consumerism and the use of technology is accelerating at an ever-increasing rate. This clash is between the new values of the increasingly larger generation of people born into this world of technology and the old values of the diminishing older population. This is the main theme of the short story "Gon-do-la", written by Annemarie Neary and published in 2014. The story follows Zhang, a Chinese factory worker, who was born into a world of old values and who struggles to adapt to the changing times.



6.8 Conclusions – two student examples

Identify the three parts of a conclusion in the following two student examples:

- thesis rephrased
- summary of key points
- impact.

Example 1

The story “The Right Time to Fly” shows us how Suzy’s presence helps Marcus get on with his life. He has been living the last seven years of his life in guilt over the death of his son and consequent divorce, while working at the depressing junkyard, but when Suzy comes along, she shines a little light into his life and makes him start over with his life. So sometimes all a person needs to escape the regrets of one’s life is a helping hand showing you that it is “not too late to start over”.

Example 2

All in all, the story shows us how the contrast between the old Zhang, who values hard work, is patriotic and wants to do her best for her home country, China, and then the younger generation, represented by her sons, who seem to prefer a more modern, westernized lifestyle. The story shows us the conflicts that may arise from such a generational gap, and by portraying this gap, the author presents to the reader the drastic changes Chinese society has undergone from the perspective of a middle-aged Chinese woman, who misses the old ways of doing things.