

Lean Mean Introductions

<p>SAMPLE TOPIC: School-start time should be extended until 9 a.m. for all public high schools.</p> <p>SAMPLE POSITION: Although extending school start time would lengthen the school day, the time spent in class would be more educationally valuable if classes didn't begin until 9 a.m.</p>	<p>YOUR TOPIC:</p> <p>YOUR POSITION:</p>
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Experiment with writing different types of introductory sentences for your thesis. A sample is provided next to a space for you to write your own. (The space is limited as a reminder to keep your introductions brief!)

THE RHETORICAL QUESTION: ASKING A QUESTION THAT LEADS TO YOUR POSITION

[[Lynette: How long do you want the boxes?]]

<p>SAMPLE INTRO: If most employers expect their workers to report for work by 9 a.m. why do we expect teenagers to be in their desks ready to work as early as 7:45 am?</p>	<p>YOUR INTRO:</p>
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DINE WITH THE OPPOSITION: ACKNOWLEDGE AND REFUTE AN OPPOSING ARGUMENT

<p>SAMPLE INTRO: Nobody will be thrilled to have the school bell ring later at dismissal; but everyone will be glad when the alarm doesn't ring before dawn to summon the start of another school day.</p>	<p>YOUR INTRO:</p>
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THE SENSATIONAL DETAIL OR STARTLING FACT: SHOCK YOUR READER INTO PAYING ATTENTION

<p>SAMPLE INTRO W/ SENSATIONAL DETAIL: The students who nod off during early morning classes are most likely not dreaming of their lessons.</p> <p>SAMPLE INTRO W/ A FACT: Studies show that one out of three American teens don't get enough sleep.</p>	<p>YOUR INTRO:</p>
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THE QUOTATION: USE SOMEONE ELSE'S WORDS TO LAUNCH YOUR POSITION

<p>SAMPLE INTRO "The early bird gets the worm," but I doubt he could get calculus at 7:45 a.m.</p>	<p>YOUR INTRO:</p>
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THE ANALOGY: COMPARE YOUR TOPIC WITH SOMETHING ELSE

<p>SAMPLE INTRO You don't schedule classes at 7:35 a.m. for the same reason that you don't schedule open heart surgeries for 11 p.m.. If you're after optimum results, students like surgeons need to be well-rested.</p>	<p>YOUR INTRO:</p>
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THE LITERARY ALLUSION: REFERENCE LITERATURE YOU'VE STUDIED

<p>SAMPLE INTRO Throughout literature, toiling in the wee hours is reserved for deviants like Dr. Frankenstein and Macbeth.</p>	<p>YOUR INTRO:</p>
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Select your favorite introduction, re-write it, and attach your **position statement** to it.

TAKE YOUR PICK !

<p>Select your favorite sample introductory sentence and write it below. Write the thesis at the end.</p>	<p>Select your favorite introductory sentence and re-write it below. Write your thesis it at the end.</p>
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Look at that! You've crafted a complete introductory paragraph using only two sentences. Let this be your goal in future debate speeches.

Think About It... Why would a compelling story be a good way to begin an essay being written at home, but a dangerous way to start a 3-minute speech?