

### Introduction

There are countless ways to stylistically complete an academic essay. Here are some examples of how students have successfully done so, while maintaining proper academic structure.

Source: <http://www.law.uwa.edu.au/students/Wellbeing/survival-guide/essay-examples>

### A proper introduction should:

- Introduce main arguments
  - Have an attention grabbing first sentence
  - Provide concise information about broader significance of topic
  - Lead in to the body of the essay
- Here are three examples of introduction paragraphs. They have been re-written several times to illustrate the difference between excellent, good and poor answers. For a close reading of the examples, click the images below.

### The Body

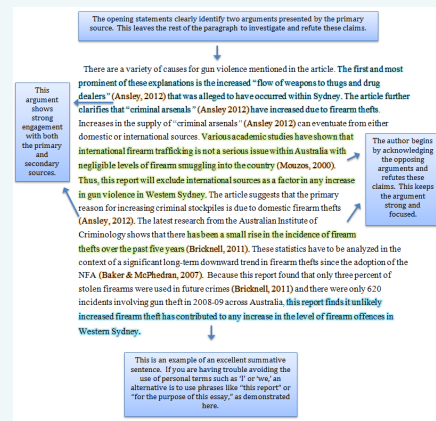
- The body of your essay should:
- Address one idea per paragraph
- Support arguments with scholarly references or evidence
- Contextualise any case studies or examples
- Style
- Use correct punctuation and proofread your work
- Keep writing impersonal (do not use 'I', 'we', 'me')
- Be concise and simple
- Be confident ("The evidence suggests..." rather than "this could be because...")
- Connect paragraphs so they flow and are logical
- Introduce primary and secondary sources appropriately
- Avoid using too many quotations or using quotes that are too long
- Do not use contractions (you're, they'd)
- Do not use emotive language ("the horrific and extremely sad scene is evidence of...")

### Conclusion

- A proper conclusion should:
- Sum up arguments
- Provide relevance to overall topic and unit themes
- Not introduce new ideas

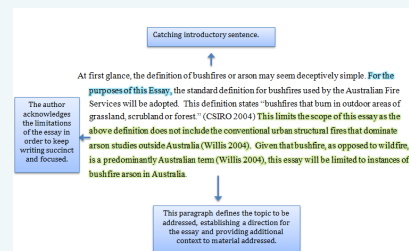
### Example - Defining Topic

### Example - Introducing Sources



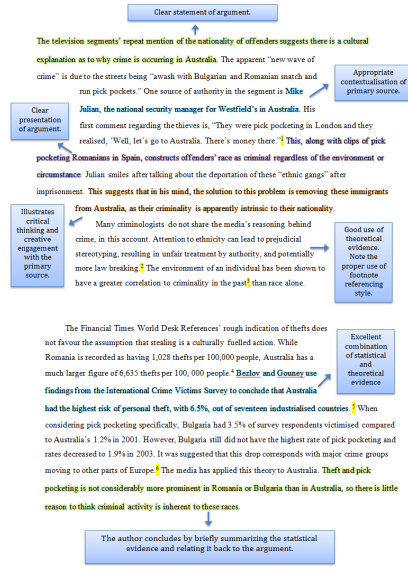
The paragraphs demonstrate how to engage with a variety of scholarly material including primary sources, scholarly theories and formal statistics

### Example - Opposing Arguments



### Example Two

This is an excerpt from a short report which required students to think critically about the media coverage of a crime and how this compares and contrasts with criminological statistics and academic articles on the topic.



This example illustrates how to keep an essay succinct and focused, by taking the time to define the topic:

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