

My Introduction

Good writers have many different ways of writing the lead, or opening lines, of a piece of writing.

Here are some common types of leads:

Flat statement or direct assertion of your position or hypothesis

(e.g., "This year was a very important one in my life.")

Description of setting, character, etc.

Facts, examples

Quotation

Question

Reflective, thoughtful comment

Shocking Statement

Dialogue

Onomatopoeia

As you think about the main idea of your essay and the things you will include, try to come up with at least three or four different possible opening lines for your paper.

1.

2.

3.

4.

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1. The house looked like a blackened shell. The exterior walls were blackened by smoke. Though the roof was still on the house, there were large gaping holes in it. The front lawn was all ripped apart, where firefighters' tools had been dragged across it. A few pieces of furniture were lying on the grass, thrown out there in an attempt to save something. But, it was the inside of the house that was really shocking. It was black, completely black. So dark that it seemed to suck the light right out of the air, even though it was around 11:00am on a sunny day.
2. "911, what's your emergency?" "There's a house on fire on my street." The dispatcher told me to calm down and speak slowly. Then she asked me for my address. "On Violetlane Way? We've already received a call about a house on fire on that street. Is there a second house on fire?" "No, I don't think so," I answered.
- 3.
- 4.