

Full Title (Up to 12 words on 1-2 lines)

Author Name (First M. Last)

Name of College

Abstract

The abstract should be one paragraph between 150-200 words. The abstract is a brief summary of your paper's purpose, main points, and conclusion. It is often written after the rest of your paper has been completed.

Full Title (Up to 12 words on 1-2 lines)

The first sentence of your essay should draw the reader in and make them want to read the rest of your essay. Therefore, good ways to begin the essay are with a question, a quote, a story, or a common misconception. Always check the paper prompt for specific instructions from your instructor. The introduction is commonly about 5 sentences, with the first sentence discussing your topic in a broad way, and the succeeding sentences getting more and more specific about your topic. The final sentence of your paragraph will be the thesis statement, which will consist of one sentence that encapsulates the main point that you are arguing about the topic of your paper.

Heading #1

APA style uses headings to help organize body paragraphs in papers. The headings indicate the topic of a section. Most papers only use one or two levels, but more complicated papers can use up to five levels. How many levels you use dictates the format of your headings. An easy way to understand headings is to think about them just as you would an outline with your main points, sub-points, sub-sub-points, etc. In that case, your main points would be Level 1 Headings, the sub-points under each main point would be Level 2 Headings, and so on. Although most of your papers will only use one or two levels of headings, here is a list of all the headings:

Level	Format
1	Centered, Boldface, Uppercase and Lowercase Headings
2	Left-aligned, Boldface, Uppercase and Lowercase Heading
3	Indented, boldface, lowercase heading with a period.
4	<i>Indented, boldface, italicized, lowercase heading with a period.</i>

5	<i>Indented, italicized, lowercase heading with a period.</i>
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Heading #2

Each of the body paragraphs will begin with a topic sentence which directly connects to the idea in your thesis statement. Every sentence following your topic sentence will provide evidence that supports your point, and then will explain that evidence in greater detail. If you use any idea or quote from a source, be sure to cite it within your essay like this (Last Name, Year). To learn more types of in-text citations and about the APA Works Cited page, visit Valencia's library website or Purdue University OWL (online writing lab), or come see us in the writing center.

Conclusion

The first sentence of the conclusion should restate the thesis, thereby bringing the reader back to the main point of your essay. The conclusion will be about five sentences, beginning with the specific details of your topic, and then moving to discuss your topic in a broad way. The final sentence of your essay should leave your reader thinking about the real world application of the topic you have discussed, or about a bigger-picture significance of your topic.

References

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