

EFFECTIVE INTRODUCTIONS

INTRODUCTIONS SHOULD GET THE READERS ATTENTION AND STATE THE WRITER'S THESIS. THE FOLLOWING ARE SOME WAYS OF GETTING THE READER'S ATTENTION AND/OR BRINGING HIM OR HER "UP TO SPEED" ON THE WRITER'S TOPIC. THE ATTENTION-GETTER MIGHT CONTAIN THE THESIS OR IT MIGHT NOT. A COMMON PROBLEM IN AN INTRODUCTION IS THE LACK OF A SMOOTH TRANSITION BETWEEN THE ATTENTION-GETTER AND THE THESIS.

THE ATTENTION-GETTER EXAMPLES BELOW ARE FROM LOUISE E. RORABACKER, ASSIGNMENTS IN EXPOSITION, 5TH EDITION.

1. ASK A QUESTION—OFTEN OVERUSED. DON'T START EVERY PAPER WITH A QUESTION.
 - A. WHAT IS HOMECOMING? HOMECOMING IS TROUBLE. HOMECOMING IS JOY. HOMECOMING IS HURRY, EXCITEMENT, SPLENDOR, LABOR, FUN, SENTIMENTALISM.

- A. AS FRANCIS BACON ONCE WROTE, "SOME BOOKS ARE TO BE TASTED, OTHERS TO BE SWALLOWED, AND SOME FEW TO BE CHEWED AND DIGESTED". ONE OF THOSE "FEW" IS CERTAINLY S. I. SAYAKAWA'S LANGUAGE IN ACTION.
 - B. "YOU WOULD HAVE UNDERSTOOD ME HAD YOU WAITED". DOWSON, IN THAT LINE FROM HIS POEM OF THE SAME TITLE, WRITES THE STORY OF HIS LIFE.
5. GIVE THE HISTORY OR BACKGROUND OF THE TOPIC SO THAT THE READER CAN UNDERSTAND WHAT YOU ARE TALKING ABOUT.
- A. THE RAPIDLY GROWING NUMBERS OF MY IMMEDIATE FAMILY LED TO OUR DEVELOPING A NOVEL AND HIGHLY SATISFYING PROGRAM OF CHRISTMAS GIVING.
 - B. IF ENGLAND CAN BE CALLED THE MOTHER OF AUSTRALIA, AMERICA SHOULD BE NAMED ITS FATHER, FOR THE NEW COUNTRY WAS SETTLED AS AN INDIRECT RESULT OF ~~2017~~ 5MTT O