First name Last name
Instructor name
English 0000-000
Paper due date
Course & section #
Date format = day month year. Ex: 30 September 2016

This is the first sentence of my introduction. Introductions are important, as they are the
first chance to make a good first impression on the audience. In this paragraph, I should get my
reader’s attention with an interesting fact, statistic, or story. I should also make sure I identify my
paper’s topic and scope; this may involve my thesis statement. I want to give the reader a good
idea of the aspects I will be covering and why I will be covering those. I will avoid clichés and
purpose statements, using meaningful attention-getters instead. It is also especially important that
my introduction reflect the rest of my paper; after I draft my body paragraphs and conclusion, I
will need to go back and re-read and revise my introduction to make sure everything fits.

In my first body paragraph, I will develop my first point, which will probably require me
to incorporate some of my research. When I quote a source in my paper, it is as if I am inserting
someone else’s voice into my monologue. If I do this without the proper transition, my writing
will not flow smoothly and may not make sense to the audience (Miseon and Dolan 62). I will
want to be sure to introduce sources properly by using signal phrases. As a Writing Center
handout says, writers should “[i]ncorporate quotations into [their] own sentences” (‘Using
Sources”). In my next paragraph, I could also paraphrase or summarize a source. To do this, I
would restate the idea(s) presented in my source, but I would use my own words to express those ideas (Cox).

www.huffingtonpost.com/entry/why-poetry-is-the-best-medium-for-kids-who-want-to-change-the-world_us_578c0c57e4b03fc3ee5146d3.


Miseon, Kim, and Michael Dolan. “‘Excuse Me, but What Is a Research Paper?’ Embedded Librarian Program and Information Literacy Skills of Community College Students.” *Community & Junior College Libraries*, vol. 21, no. ½, Jan.-June 2015, pp. 53-70.


*Note: See p. 53 in *MLA Handbook*, 8th ed., regarding optional elements, such as accessed date; see p. 41 for information about supplying the publisher’s name for various kinds of organizations; see p. 48 for information on the use of DOIs versus URLs.*