

Schematic for an Introduction:

Introduce the Topic: anecdote, striking fact, key event

**Preliminary Understanding of the topic:
often a reference to a prior scholar**

- Break with that prior scholar by one or more of these moves:**
- **Pointing to a flaw in that scholar's understanding.**
 - **Naming your essay's body of evidence—possibly something the scholar hasn't looked at.**

Voice your thesis claim.

Schematic for the essay:

Introduction

Bring readers fully up to speed by briefly rehearsing the story, a basic narrative of key players and what happened.

Written in storytelling mode: ¶s open with key events: this happened, then this happened...

¶s draw on secondary sources, mostly.

Argue your vision using primary sources.

Written in analysis mode: now that we know what happened, pause the forward motion of time, using evidence to explain why and how things happened the way they did.

¶s open with claims, with generalizations, with insights.

Some ¶s use multiple examples rapid-fire to show a pattern in the evidence.

Other ¶s zoom in to analyze 1 example, explaining a pattern noted earlier.

Conclusion: the takeaway, next steps for research, or maybe the significance for present-day politics.

