

Learning objective: Begin to develop language, style and content suitable for essay on the novel.

Starter:

What is an introduction to an essay for? What sort of information should be included? Take ideas from the class.

Introduction:

Show the three 'model' introductions. Which one is effective and why? Students make some notes in their books as to which introduction they think is the most effective. Discuss as a class, noting in particular the difference in word choice, use of the author's name and focus on the question.

Development:

Now students go back to the introduction they wrote and see how they can improve and build on them.

Circulate and help those who need it.

If students finish their introductions and are satisfied with them, ask them to start thinking about the first paragraph of their essay. What could they write in it? What would be the best point to start with?

Plenary:

Hear some students' introductions read out. Offer constructive criticism. What do students think could be improved about their own introductions?

Explore S E Hinton's presentation of the character of _____ through the novel *The Outsiders*.

Introduction 1:

I am going to write about Ponyboy. In the novel he does a lot of stuff and I think he's great. He's involved in Bob's murder but then it turns out that he wasn't really. Susan writes really well about Ponyboy.

Introduction 2:

In the novel, The Outsiders, Ponyboy Curtis is the protagonist and the narrator. He leads a difficult life with his two brothers and the rest of their family, the Greasers. Hinton shows the reader through the character of Ponyboy how all teenagers have dreams and aspirations, regardless of their situation.

Introduction 3:

Through the novel, The Outsiders, Ponyboy Curtis, the main character, changes and matures as the book progresses. At the beginning he does not really seem to question the fighting that takes place between the greasers (his gang) and the Socs (a group of wealthy teenagers from the other side of town) but he becomes increasingly isolated and disillusioned by the futility of the fights.

What do you think of the introductions above?

Write at least one positive comment and one way in which each introduction could be improved:

Introduction 1:

.....
.....

Introduction 2:

.....
.....

Introduction 3:

.....
.....

www.morelearning.net