

# Introductions and Conclusions

## Grabbers and Clinchers



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## Grabber & Clincher

- Writers begin with a technique meant to grab their readers' attention.
- Using an appropriate "grabber" will get the reader interested in your essay.
- Concluding with a "clincher" allows the writer to "lock-up" the essay leaving the reader feeling satisfied.
- Both Grabbers and Clinchers should include a thesis statement.

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## Types of Grabbers



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## Grabber: Interesting Question

Open with an **interesting question** related to the topic of the essay. End the introduction with a strong **thesis statement**.

**What would happen to our world if not one person took the time to care for it?** Imagine a world where it is acceptable to litter. Garbage would eventually overrun the streets. Protecting the environment is not just a matter of litter; there are many other aspects involved. **As the generation of the future, teenagers must take an active role in protecting the environment.**

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## Grabber: Riddle



Open with a **riddle** related to the topic of the essay. Answer the riddle at the end of the introduction with a strong **thesis statement**.

**Which mode of transportation allows a person to enjoy the view while traveling, remain comfortable, and get to a destination quickly?** Flying through the air only provides a view from the sky. Driving a car does not allow the driver to enjoy the countryside. **By far, the greatest mode of transportation is a train because it is relatively quick, inexpensive, and comfortable for travelers.**

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## Grabber: Opinion



Open with a **opinion** related to the topic of the essay. This can be an effective way to begin a persuasive essay. End the introduction with a strong **thesis statement**.

**In my opinion, it is not the role of schools to make dietary choices for students.** Some people may argue that students spend the majority of their time at school; therefore, it is the school's responsibility to provide proper snacks. I disagree. **Since making healthy food choices is an individual decision, snack machines should not be banned from school property.**

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## Grabber: Definition



Open with a **definition**. Choose a term which is central to the topic of the essay. The definition can be in your own words, from the dictionary, or a combination of the two. End the introduction with a strong **thesis statement**.

**Vacation is defined as "a period of suspension of work, study, or other activity usually used for rest, recreation or travel."** For me vacation indicates one marvelous feeling: freedom. Freedom to do whatever I please. Most of the time, that freedom includes travel. **Although I have traveled many places, my favorite vacation spot is only three hours away: Disney World.**

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## Grabber: Figurative Language



Open with a **figurative language** related to the topic. A simile, a **metaphor**, personification, or a hyperbole are some excellent examples of figurative language that can be used to grab the reader's attention. End the introduction with a strong **thesis statement**.

**Education is the key to success.** For many students, school can seem like an inconvenient way to spend most of their days. However, receiving an education is possibly the greatest gift given to all students. Without it, many students would end up lost in sea of nothingness. **Indeed, education provides students the opportunity to find areas of interest and set goals for the future.**

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## Grabber: Significant Quotation

Open with a **significant quotation** related to the topic. Make sure to explain the quote and connect it to the focus of your essay. End the introduction with a strong **thesis statement**.

**"Adventure is worthwhile in itself," Amelia Earhart stated.** In other words, no matter what the outcome or bumps in the road, in the end, the journey is rewarding. Some people think adventure is equivalent to travel, but to me, an adventure can be as simple as doing something new. **Although some people may not view pet ownership as an adventure, the day I picked up my new puppy, I embarked on a journey of a lifetime.**

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## Grabber: Personal Experience

Open with a **personal experience** related to the topic. This creative anecdote or story must lead the reader to the focus of the essay. End the introduction with a strong **thesis statement**.

**Music enveloped my soul as my feet steadily pounded the pavement. With each step, the rhythm and lyrics propelled me to keep moving.** For some people, music provides a stress relief; for others, music is motivation. Without a doubt, people enjoy music for different reasons. **Immersing myself in music allows me to stay focused and relieve stress.**

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## Clincher: Lock it Up!

Begin your conclusion with a **thesis statement** to provide a summary of your essay.



End your essay with a **final thought** on the topic. This "locks up" your ideas.

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## Grabber & Clincher



**What would happen to our world if not one person took the time to care for it? Imagine a world where it is acceptable to litter. Garbage would eventually overrun the streets. Protecting the environment is not just a matter of litter; there are many other aspects involved. As the generation of the future, teenagers must take an active role in protecting the environment.**



**Teenagers can protect the environment by recycling, joining clean-up committees, and being role models. If teenagers do not begin to participate in protecting the environment, the Earth will be in danger for future generations. It is up to us to start the process of protecting our world.**

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## Grabber & Clincher



Which mode of transportation allows a person to enjoy the view while traveling, remain comfortable, and get to a destination quickly? Flying through the air only provides a view from the sky. Driving a car does not allow the driver to enjoy the countryside. **By far, the greatest mode of transportation is a train because it is relatively quick, inexpensive, and comfortable for travelers.**



Although there are many modes of transportation, a train provides the best of all options. Being able to enjoy the countryside scenery or sleep while chugging along are two fabulous reasons for traveling by train. Options like these are not available to airline passengers.

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## Grabber & Clincher



In my opinion, it is not the role of schools to make dietary choices for students. Some people may argue that students spend the majority of their time at school; therefore, it is the school's responsibility to provide proper snacks. I disagree. **Since making healthy food choices is an individual decision, snack machines should not be banned from school property.**



Banning snack machines from school property eliminates students' choices. In life, students will be tempted to make unhealthy choices in many situations. Allowing students to learn to say "no" to inappropriate snacks will teach the value of making correct choices in other areas of life.

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## Grabber & Clincher



Vacation is defined as "a period of suspension of work, study, or other activity usually used for rest, recreation or travel." For me vacation indicates one marvelous feeling: freedom. Freedom to do whatever I please. Most of the time, that freedom includes travel. **Although I have traveled many places, my favorite vacation spot is only three hours away: Disney World.**



Disney World's convenient location, resort amenities, and fun for all ages make it the perfect vacation location. While others prefer to hit the seaside or ski-slopes, my ideal vacation includes breakfast with Mickey and thrilling rides like the Rock'n Roller Coaster.

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## Grabber & Clincher



Education is the key to success. For many students, school can seem like an inconvenient way to spend most of their days. However, receiving an education is possibly the greatest gift given to all students. Without it, many students would end up lost in sea of nothingness. **Indeed, education provides students the opportunity to find areas of interest and set goals for the future.**



Because it is imperative to future success, an education should not be taken for granted. While an education is not the only key to unlock the road to success, it is one key which is irreplaceable. Students must be educated in order to gain opportunity for future achievement.

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## Grabber & Clincher



"Adventure is worthwhile in itself," Amelia Earhart stated. In other words, no matter what the outcome or bumps in the road, in the end, the journey is rewarding. Some people think adventure is equivalent to travel, but to me, an adventure can be as simple as doing something new. **Although some people may not view pet ownership as an adventure, the day I picked up my new puppy, I embarked on a journey of a lifetime.**



Owning a puppy is, indeed, an extraordinary adventure. Although it takes time and effort, the end result is rewarding. As Roger Caras said, "Dogs are not our whole lives, but they make our lives whole."

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## Grabber & Clincher



Music enveloped my soul as my feet steadily pounded the pavement. With each step, the rhythm and lyrics propelled me to keep moving. For some people, music provides a stress relief; for others, music is motivation. Without a doubt, people enjoy music for different reasons. **Immersing myself in music allows me to stay focused and relieve stress.**



Although others may find motivation in other places, music is my way to stay on target. Without a doubt, music provided the impetus for me to train for my first marathon. The musicians were like my own personal cheerleaders helping me reach the finish line.

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## Answer these questions



- Which Grabber & Clincher do you think will work best for your style of writing? Why?
- Which Grabber & Clincher seems to be the easiest to write? Why?
- Which Grabber & Clincher seems to be the most challenging to write? Why?

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