Introductions

Start strong!



- I. The introduction to your essay is very important and should accomplish four objectives:
 - a. "catch the interest" of the audience
 - b. reveal the purpose of your writing (why are you writing this essay)
 - c. relate to the interest of the audience (what type of person is reading the essay)
 - d. preview the main points you will write about
- II. Ways to Start your essay:
 - a. Asking a question- Begin essay with a question to arouse readers' curiosity while letting the reader know your subject.
 - i. What kind of person has the ability to change another person that was stuck in his way? The answer is my wife.
 - Using a quotation- Quotations that are famous or from well know people establish a feeling of familiarity and creates a mood of acceptance toward your topic.
 - i. Harrison Ford (aka. Indiana Jones) once said "We all have big changes in our lives that are more or less a second chance." The big change in my life was meeting my wife and the second chance she helped me achieve.
 - c. Using a story People like to read stories about other people. Readers like to learn a little about your topic in the beginning to help them get to know what they are reading about.
 - i. One day at work I told a co-worker about how I didn't go to school that day because I went fishing instead. My co-worker gave me a disgusted look and said I was wasting my time in school. That coworker became my wife and without that inspiration, I wouldn't be where I am today.
 - d. Using a humorous story- People love funny stories, but be careful. Readers may have a different idea of what is funny and if your humor fails, you are off to a bad start.

"Whoa! You live with your grandparents! Do you get everything you want?" It was common for me to hear this question growing up because most people think grandparents spoil grandchildren. That wasn't the case for me. If anything, I had it worse than many of my friend. Looking back, I may not have gotten everything I wanted, but I got what I needed—life lessons. Although my grandparents didn't give me many material things, the lessons they gave me shaped me into the person I am today. The taught me to think of consequence before I acted, to help others, and to save money.