

**THE ANALYSIS OF METHODS OF WRITING INTRODUCTORY
PARAGRAPHS AND THE THESIS STATEMENT ON ENGLISH
ARTICLES IN OPINION COLUMN OF JAKARTA POST**

THESIS

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FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND CULTURE
THE STATE ISLAMIC UNIVERSITY OF MALANG**

2008

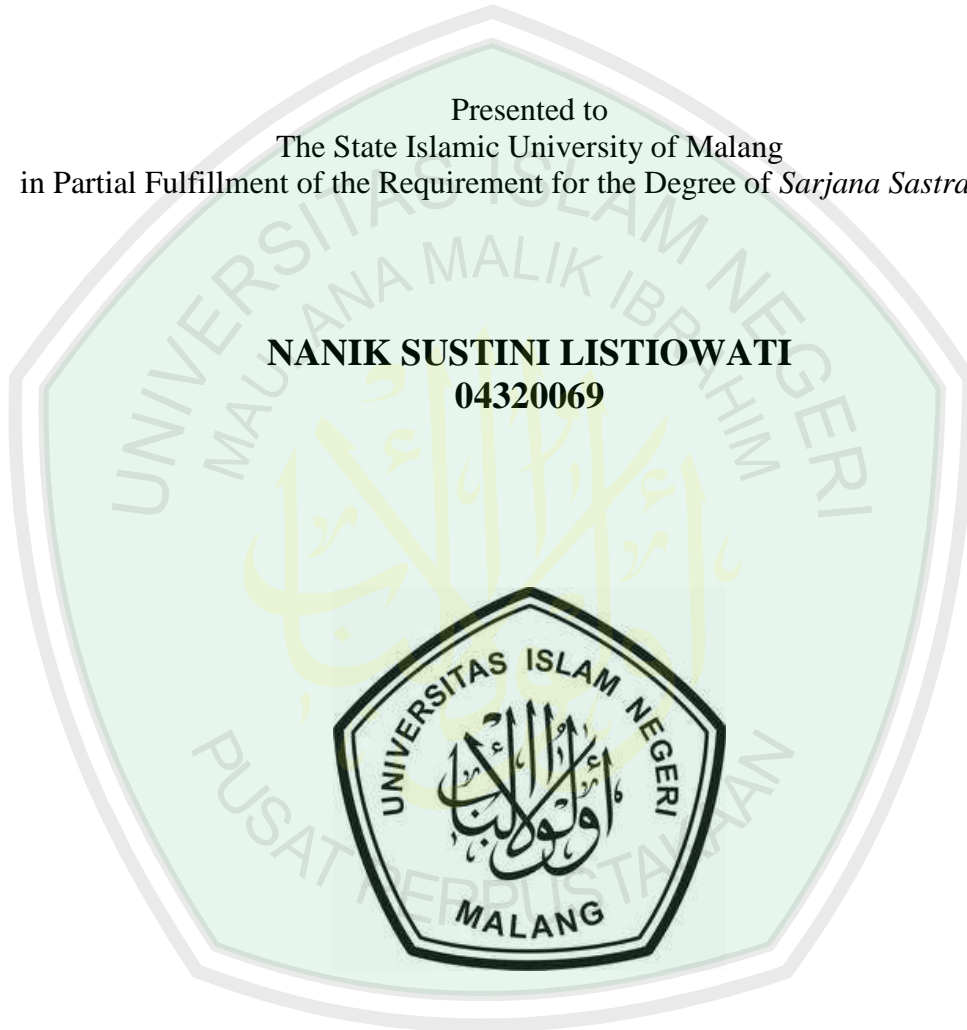
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THESIS

Presented to
The State Islamic University of Malang
in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirement for the Degree of *Sarjana Sastra (S.S)*

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**ENGLISH LETTERS AND LANGUAGE DEPARTMENT
FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND CULTURE
THE STATE ISLAMIC UNIVERSITY OF MALANG
2008**

STATEMENT OF AUTHORSHIP

Hereby, I state that the thesis entitled *The Analysis of Methods of Writing Introductory Paragraphs and The Thesis Statement on English Articles in Opinion Column of Jakarta Post* is truly my original work. It does not incorporate any materials previously written or published by another person, except those indicated in quotations and bibliography.

Malang, 18th September 2008

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Motto

Once you learn to quit,
it becomes a habit.
(Vince Lombard)

The pessimist sees difficulty in every opportunity.
The optimist sees the opportunity in every difficulty.
(Winston Churchill)

Every time is every moment
Every sight is every sign
Every day is every chance
And there will be hope by the sunshine



DEDICATION

This thesis is dedicated for

My lovely family

Bapak Sumardi and Ibu Sutini thank for the eternal love you gives to me. Thank for your endless pray and support that is never end for me.

My brothers Dwi Edi Putra and Tri Dian Arif who always be there for me, thank for giving me the feeling of happy big sister.

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Mba' Sul, Les, Cak Tek, and all my family

Thank for giving me a warm and happy family. Thank for giving me an earthly paradise in our nice family. I love you all more than words can say more than view can see, more than air that breath. I hope I will always be someone you hope.

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For my 'future' someone

Although I don't know who and where are you now, but you have make me think my, our shinning world in future. You have make me struggle the days to be a better and better person, so I can stand beside you proudly and happily. And I'm here waiting your smile shines my life.

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Last but not least, I hope this thesis will give many advantages to all of people who much concern in English language. I invite the reader's suggestions and critics responding to the presence of my thesis.

Finally, there is no body perfect in this wide world.

Alhamdulillahirabbil 'Alamin

Malang, 13rd September 2008

The writer



ABSTRACT

Listiowati, Nanik Sustini, 2008. *The Analysis of methods of writing Introductory Paragraphs and the thesis statement on English Articles in Opinion Column of Jakarta Post*
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Key Word: Introductory Paragraphs, method, thesis statement

Introductory paragraph is a paragraph that begins the writing with the thesis statement or the main point of the whole writing. Introductory paragraph is stated usually at the very beginning of the writing and will be read first by the reader, so it will determine whether the reader will enjoy reading the whole writing or not. It is extremely important because it sets the tone for the entire paper and introduces the reader to the topic, yet carries the most trouble. Because of the important of introductory paragraphs, writers usually use number of methods to make a good introductory paragraph and to grab the reader's attention to read the following paragraphs. There are four basic type of introduction: Turnabout, Dramatic Entrance, Relevant Quotation, and Funnel.

This study is qualitative research, since the data do not deal with calculating and number. The data source of this study is texts taken from articles of opinion column in Jakarta Post published in the 1st to 18th February, 2008. This study employs the researcher herself as the primary instrument to gather data.

There are 40 articles analyzed which is taken from opinion column of Jakarta Post. Nearly all of the articles use the methods of introductory paragraphs, they are funnel, turnabout, relevant quotation, and dramatic entrance. In addition, almost all introductory paragraphs in articles analyzed have thesis statement that fulfills the characteristic of thesis statement proposed by Smalley & Ruetten.

The finally of the research brings recommendations to the English reading and writing lectures and students, people who concern on writing article and also for the next researcher. To English reading and writing lectures, the analysis of Introductory Paragraphs on English Articles in Opinion Column of Jakarta Post has faithful outcomes. This study can support students' skill in writing. By this research, people who concern on writing article can decide to use the proper strategy of introductions that can grab their readers' attention. To the next researcher of the similar area, the result of this research is hopefully can be used as a starting point to analyze more deeply about essay writing.

TABLE OF CONTENT

	Page
COVER	
TITLE SHEET	i
STATEMENT OF THESIS AUTHORSHIP	ii
APPROVAL SHEET	iii
LEGITIMATION SHEET	iv
MOTTO	v
DEDICATION	vi
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT	vii
ABSTRACT	x
TABLE OF CONTENTS	xi
CHAPTER I: INTRODUCTION	
1.1. Background of Study	1
1.2. Research Problems	5
1.3. Objectives of Study	5
1.4. Significance of the Study	5
1.5. Scope and Limitation	6
1.6. Definition of the Key Term	7
CHAPTER II: REVIEW OF THE RELATED LITERATURE	
2.1. An overview of writing skill	8
2.2 Essay writing	11
2.3 Argumentative essay	15
2.4. Essay organization	20
2.4.1. Introductory paragraph	21
2.4.1.1. The methods of writing introductory paragraph.	27
2.4.1.1.1. Turnabout	28
2.4.1.1.2. Dramatic Entrance	28
2.4.1.1.3. Relevant Quotation	29
2.4.1.1.4. Funnel	30
2.4.2. Development paragraph	31
2.4.3. Concluding paragraph	33

CHAPTER III: RESEARCH METHOD

3.1. Research Design	37
3.2. Data Sources	38
3.3. Research Subject	38
3.4. Research Instrument	38
3.5. Data Collections	39
3.6. Data Analysis	39

CHAPTER IV: FINDING AND DISCUSSION

4.1. Finding	40
4.2. Discussion	80

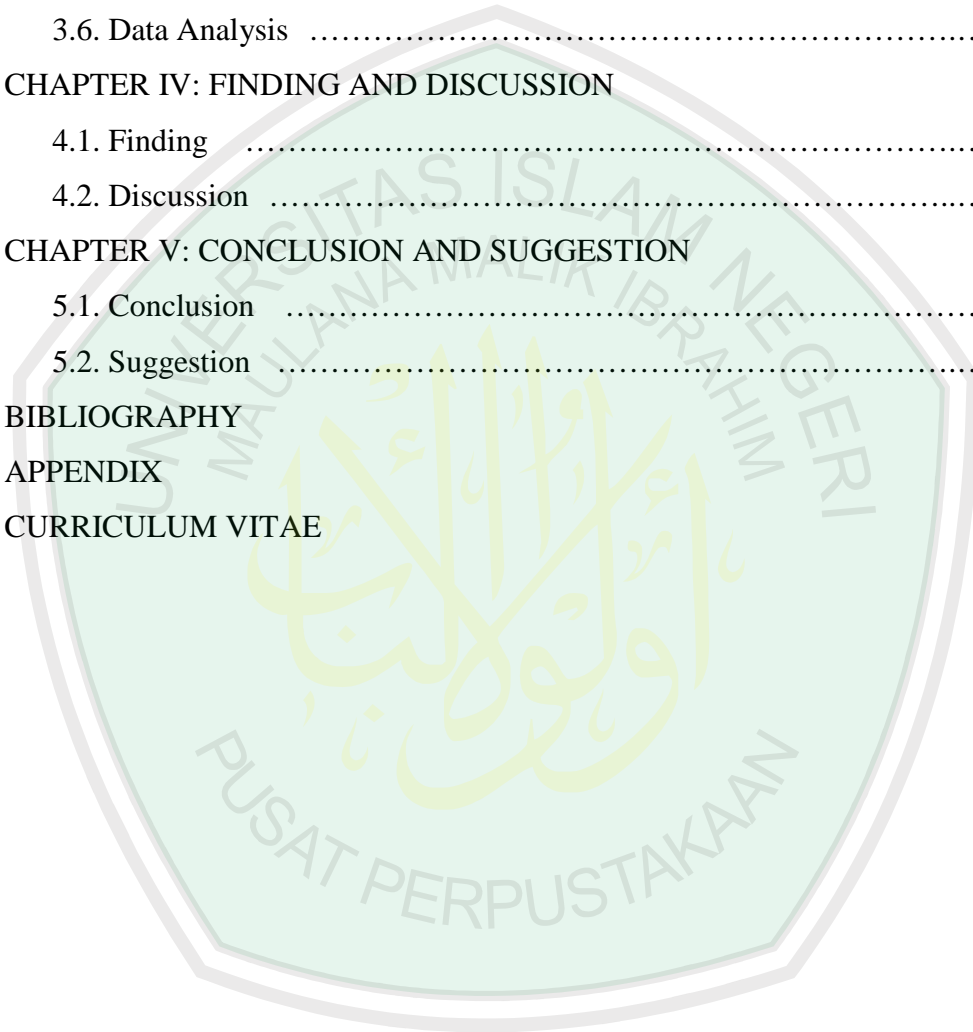
CHAPTER V: CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

5.1. Conclusion	89
5.2. Suggestion	90

BIBLIOGRAPHY

APPENDIX

CURRICULUM VITAE



CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

Introductory paragraph is a paragraph that begins the writing or essay writing and where the main point of the whole essay is stated. Brereton (1982:50) says that introductory paragraph comes at the beginning of an essay. It presents the subject and thesis statement, the main point of the whole essay that you want your readers to recognize. The following paragraphs, the body or development paragraphs and the concluding paragraph should be matched with the thesis statement which states introductory paragraph and of course with the topic chosen. The development paragraphs must support the thesis statement and the concluding paragraph should also be appropriate with the topic and it is the summary item of the essay.

Introduction places a significant part of the essay because this is the paragraph where the thesis statement is stated. Thesis statement is the central idea which controls the entire essay. Smalley & Ruetten (1982: 140-141) say that the sentence containing the central idea of the essay is called the thesis statement. Moreover, they assert several points to remember about the thesis statement; the thesis statement should be expressed in a complete sentence, expresses an opinion, attitude, or idea; express an opinion not fact, and it should express only one idea toward one topic.

Introductory paragraph is extremely important because it sets the tone for the entire paper and introduces the reader to the topic, yet carries the most trouble. Braine & May (1996:44) say that paper must have effective introduction. The first few sentences of your paper are especially important because they are the first impression that your readers will have about the paper and about you, the writer. A good introduction is not always easy to write. In fact, many writers often revise and rewrite this sections many times before they are satisfied.

Hartley & Knapper in Robinson, 1988: 63, who had done a research in 1984 through responding to a questionnaire in Britain and Canada, found that one of the main difficulties in writing for native speakers of English is clearly the process of getting started. In their research they found that academics in both Britain and Canada mentioned two main sources of difficulty, one of them is writing the first paragraph i.e. getting started; Moreover, they say that if writing the first paragraph presents difficulties for native-speakers of English, the problems for non-native speakers of English must be larger still.

Because introductory paragraph is very important, writers usually use number of strategies to make a good introductory paragraph and to grab the reader's attention to read the following paragraphs. They may, for example, begins with a universally accepted truth, a general information, a strikingly fresh analogy, giving a brief story of the topic, explain the importance of the topic, quote other people words or statement, build a questions about the topic, giving the opposite of the writer own thesis first, a figure of speech or a common condition (Saraka, 1988:183).

Smalley & Ruetten (1982:142-143) states that there are four basic types of introduction: the “Turnabout,” in which the author opens with a statement contrary to his or her actual thesis; the “Dramatic Entrance,” in which the author opens with a narrative, description, dramatic examples pertinent to the topic; the “Relevant Quotation,” in which the writer opens with a quotation pertinent to the topic; and the “Funnel,” in which the writer opens with the general statement to the specific statement.

A study about essay writing has been done by several researchers. Noniawati (2006), for example, has studied essay writing and focuses on investigating the unity of the student’s argumentative essay. Her research was descriptive Qualitative, involving the students’ writing III of UIN Malang. She found that all essays she investigated have an appropriate unity because the essays have clear thesis statements and supporting sentences in its introductory, development and concluding paragraph.

Another relevant research was done by Yuniati (2007). She studied the way the writers present the claim of facts in opinion section of Jakarta Post published in April 2006. She took only articles that concerning political issues as an object of study. She found that there are five ways used by the writer to present their claim of fact: a) using introductory paragraph which have a clear thesis statement, b) development paragraphs that support thesis statement in introductory paragraph, c) all of the writers present the evidence from specific to general, d) most of the data use facts, inferences, examples and some of them use statistics and quotation, and e) only one of the data uses ambiguous which are explained in the text.

Hidayati (2007) also conducted the study on writing; claim of fact in the opinion section of articles concerning political issues in Tempo magazines, June 5th to July 2nd 2007. She found that the writer mostly did not state explicitly what they are trying to prove and they mostly used sufficient, accurate, recent, and typical evidence in the term of facts, interpretation and opinion.

This study also concerned essay writing but there are some differences from those earlier studies. First, the object of this study is all articles included in opinion column of Jakarta Post from 1st until 14th of February, 2008. The previous study took articles concerning political issues in opinion section in Jakarta Post (Yuniati, 2007) and Time Magazine (Hidayati, 2007), and students' essay writing III of UIN Malang (Noniawaty, 2006). Second, this study investigated only the introductory paragraph focusing on the methods of writing introductory paragraph and the thesis statement. Whereas, the previous studies analyzed the whole contents of the essay and the unity of the argumentative essay (Noniawaty, 2006), and the claim of facts (Yuniaty, 2007; Hidayati, 2007).

This study is conducted to analyze the methods used to write introductory paragraph and also about the thesis statement in essay writing. This study is under linguistics disciplinary since writing is one of the productive skills in language. When we talk about linguistics, we talk about language. Language is classified into two; productive language and receptive language. Reading and listening are receptive language, whereas speaking and writing are productive language.

1.2 Research Problems

Based on the previous description on the background of study, this research answers on the following questions:

1. What kinds of methods of writing introductory paragraphs are used by the writers?
2. What are the characteristics of thesis statement which is fulfilled by the writers?

1.3 Objectives of Study

Based on the problems mentioned above, the objectives of this research are:

1. to describe kinds of methods used in introductory paragraphs.
2. to identify the thesis statement which is stated by the writer in introductory paragraph.

1.4 Significance of the Study

The findings of the study are supposed to give contribution to the area of writing. This study gives contribution for foreign language learning especially English language to enrich their understanding on how to have a good writing. For English students of UIN Malang, this study gives contribution in the term of making good essay composition especially good introductory paragraph, the methods used to begin their essay in academic writing. This study is important because it can give new insights for English students about how to write a good introductory paragraph of essay in their academic writing, about what methods that they may be used to begin their writing, since introductory paragraph places an important part of essay and needs a lot of skills to write it well; they hopefully

get a few sight about how to analyze an authentic material (newspaper or magazine' articles) in English learning process.

For English lectures, hopefully this research will give valuable findings of writing course by giving complete material of writing and will have information about writing essay composition.

This study is also expected to give contribution for those who are interested in writing an article for newspaper or magazine. From this study, they may get an idea about how they state their opinion. They may also recognize the strategies to grab their readers' attention through making good introductory paragraph in their article. This research is also expected to give a contribution to support the further studies of the same concern, more importantly this study also gives contribution for the researcher herself to prove her writing skill.

1.5 Scope and Limitation

This study focuses on analyzing the methods of writing introductory paragraphs and the thesis statement based on concepts proposed by Smalley & Ruetten (1982), which include funnel, turn about, dramatic entrance, and relevant quotation (these concepts are presented in more detailed in Chapter 2). This study is also limited on investigating the introductory paragraphs on English articles in opinion column of Jakarta post in first two weeks of February form 1st until 14th, 2008 (except for 7th of February because there were no publication, and for Sunday publication because there were no opinion column on that day). English articles in opinion column of Jakarta Post are chosen because newspaper or

magazine is kind of authentic material¹ which can supplement the process of learning English and there are many different ways or methods that are used in English articles of opinion column in Jakarta Post.

1.6 Definition of the Key Term

To avoid misunderstanding of terms used in this study, some terms need to be defined.

1. Introductory Paragraph is paragraph that begins writing or essay and it lies in the very beginning of the writing or essay. This paragraph is very important because it introduces the topic of the whole writing or essay to the readers.
2. The Jakarta Post is a daily newspaper published by PT Bina Tenggara. This is a standard of English language media in Indonesia. The Jakarta Post is published first in April 25th, 1983. Received the international award in 1991, 1993, and in may 1994. It is a member of The Asia Pacific Media Network since April 2000.

¹ Materials that were not created specially for use in language teaching and have not been simplified for use with language learners, such as real newspaper articles, a real TV or radio show, etc.

CHAPTER II

REVIEW OF THE RELATED LITERATURE

This chapter discusses the theoretical framework of this study, an overview of writing skill, essay writing, argumentative essay, essay composition; introductory paragraph, development/body paragraph, and concluding paragraph.

2.1. An overview of writing skill

The act of writing is an act of thought (Murray, 2004:3), we write to think—to be surprised by what appears on the page; to explore our world with language; to discover meaning that teaches us and that may be worth sharing with others. Writing is not superficial to the intellectual life but central to it; writing is one of the most disciplined ways of making meaning and one of the most effective methods we can use to monitor our own thinking.

Writing is one of the skills in English. It is considered a difficult task as it requires special skill in its production. Good English writing needs complex skills such as good choice of word, correct grammatical structure, mechanics in writing and rhetoric. It also requires the ability to write good sentence and to organize them logically into paragraph and essay. Hartfiel in Cahyono (2001:44) states that it has been widely believed that writing, among the four language skills, is the most difficult skill. This is because it involves several components which have to be considered while a learner is writing, for example contents, rhetoric, vocabularies, grammatical structure and writing mechanics such as punctuation and capitalization.

Smith in Robinson (1988:9) says that “composition is not a matter of putting one word after another, or of translating successive ideas into words, but rather of building a structure (the text) from materials (the conventions) according to an incomplete and constantly changing plan (the specification of intention.”

Academic writing, as the name implies, is the kind of writing required doing in the college or university. It differs from other kinds of writing such as personal, literary, journalistic, or business writing. These differences can be explained in part by its special audience, tone, and purpose. In addition, Oshima & Hogue (1999:3) say that writing; particularly academic writing is not easy. It needs study and practice to develop this skill. For both native speakers and new learners of English, it is important to note that writing is a process, not a “product.” It means that a piece of writing needs review and revision to be a perfect writing.

Words are the main point in writing, because they are the media used by writer to say their intention to the readers. Brereton (1982:2) states that writing differs from speaking in one very important way: the text has to carry all the meaning, because the writer is never around to explain. This is not at all like normal speech situation, in which listeners can tell you they do not understand, or you can use tone of voice or body language to help you explain some point, such as the meaning. In writing, the words on the page have to carry all the meaning.

Writing considered as the most difficult one to master. Many students will probably have some problems in constructing a piece of writing due to the fact that writing skill is not essay. Robinson (1988: 5) says that traditionally, the teaching of writing was language focused. Viewed essentially as secondary and in

some senses inferior to the spoken language, writing was used as a means of reinforcing language which had already been dealt with in spoken form. The emphasis was on correctness and the adherence to and copying of models, both of language and text. Indeed, the provision of a model was seen as being very important. The teacher or the textbook was the source of language, and a good model was crucial

Furthermore, since writing is viewed as cognitive process, and since cognitive processes are, to an extent, considered universal, then it would seem logical that writing processes are, to an extent, also universal. Where the difficulties may occur for the writer in a foreign language are in drawing upon appropriate schemata as a basis for organizing ideas, and in having sufficient access to the foreign to be able to encode these ideas in a form that is accessible to the intended readership (Robinson, 1988: 12).

Expressing the thought into language is not easy as convinced by Ur (1996: 163). It states that the purpose of writing, in principle, is the expression of ideas, the conveying of a message to the reader; so the ideas themselves should arguably be seen as the most important aspect of the writing. On the other hand, the writer needs also to pay attention to formal aspects: neat handwriting, correct spelling and punctuation, as well as acceptable grammar and careful selection of vocabulary. This is because much higher standards of language are normally demanded in writing than in speech: more careful construction, more precise and varied vocabulary, more correctness of expression in general. Also, the slow and reflective nature of the process of writing in itself enables the writer to devote time and attention to formal aspects during the process of production. She adds

that one of the problems in teaching writing is to maintain a fair balance between content and form when defining the requirements and assessing. What this 'fair balance' is depends, of course, to some extent on its own teaching situation and opinion.

2.2 Essay writing

Essay is one kind of writing that contains of introductory, development and concluding paragraphs, that develops one single point, the thesis statement. In essay, subjects can and should be developed than they would be in a single-paragraph paper. Brereton (1978:23) asserts that essay is a group of paragraph about one single point. An essay is a longer than a single paragraph because the point it makes is more complex. Each separate paragraph of the essay explains some part of the essay's overall point. That is the main idea of each paragraph helps prove the point the essay makes.

Writing an essay is not simply a matter of getting the required number of words down on paper. Alexander (1965:21) states that the writer must do all that they can do to make the essays are interesting; so that they will hold the readers' attention to the very end to achieve this. It is not necessary to go to absurd lengths to be original. All you need to do is to include incidents and details which you have imagined. Di Pippo (1996:229) says that essay is the kind of paper which you express your own ideas, reflections, or thoughts on different subject.

In addition, Oshima & Hogue (1999:100-102) oppose that an essay is a piece of writing several paragraphs long instead of just one or two paragraphs. It is written about one topic, just as a paragraph is. However, the topic of an essay is too complex to discuss in one paragraph. Therefore, you must divide the topic

into several paragraphs, one for each major point. Then you must tie all of the separate paragraphs together by adding an introduction and a conclusion. For more explanation, they give a form of paragraph about an essay.



ESSAY

I. INTRODUCTION

General Statement

Thesis Statement

II. BODY

A. Topic Sentence

1. Support

2. Support

3. Support

(Concluding Sentence)

B. Topic Sentence

1. Support

2. Support

3. Support

(Concluding Sentence)

C. Topic Sentence

1. Support

2. Support

3. Support

(Concluding Sentence)

III. CONCLUSION

Restatement or summary of the
main points; final comment

PARAGRAPH

Topic Sentence

A. Support

B. Support

C. Support

Concluding Sentence

The diagram above shows that essay has tree main parts:

1. An introductory paragraph
2. A body (at least one, but usually two or more paragraphs)
3. A concluding paragraph

In addition Brereton (1978:24) asserts that each separate part has a distinct function:

Introduction	(a) presents the subject to the reader. (b) states the point of the essay.
Main body	(a) explains your point. (b) persuades the reader that you are right.
Conclusion	(a) ends the discussion. (b) leaves the reader thinking.

Furthermore, Oshima & Hogue (1999:101) assert that:

- a. Introductory paragraph consists of two parts: a few general statements about your subject to attract your readers' attention and a thesis statement to state the specific subdivisions of your topic and/or the "plan" of your paper. A thesis statement for an essay is just like a topic sentence for a paragraph: it names the specific topic and the controlling ideas or major subdivisions of the topic.
- b. Body paragraph consists of one or more paragraphs. Each paragraph develops a subdivision of your topic, so the number of paragraphs in body will vary with the number of subdivisions or subtopics. The body is the longest part of the essay and can contain as many paragraphs as necessary

to support the controlling ideas of your thesis statement. The paragraphs of the body of the essay are like the main supporting points in a single paragraph. Furthermore, you can organize the paragraphs in an essay just as you organize the ideas in a paragraph by chronological order of ideas, comparison and contrast, etc.

- c. Concluding paragraph in an essay, like the concluding sentence in a paragraph, is a summary or review of the main points discussed in the body.

Smalley & Ruetten (1982:139) argue that essay is a formal composition, and the paragraphs in an essay have designed function:

1. Introduction. The introduction is usually on a paragraph (sometimes two or more) introducing the topic to be discussed and the central idea (the thesis statement) of the essay.
2. Developmental paragraphs. These paragraphs develop various aspects of the topic and the central idea. They may discuss causes, effects, reasons, examples, process, classifications, or point of comparison and contrast. They may also describe or narrate.
3. Conclusion. This paragraph concludes the thought developed in the essay.

It is a closing word

2.3 Argumentative essay

Argumentative essay is the act of forming reasons used to persuade and convince the reader. Smalley & Ruetten(1982:320) say that the argumentative essay shows the writer's way of taking a position on debatable topic, supporting the topic with relevance evidence and keeping the readers on their side.

Argumentative essay has different characteristics from an expository essay. It involves a refutation.

Argumentative essay, in the form of persuasive, attempts to convince the readers that your thesis is true. Brereton (1978:74) says there is a special type of writing that persuades by means of solid, sensible, logical arguments. When writing an argumentative essay, draw attention to your purpose by stating in the beginning. A good way to state your point of view is to have your thesis sentence contain the words “should”, “ought,” or “must.”

Alexander (1965:103) says that an argumentative essay is in many ways similar to an abstract in that it is concerned almost entirely with ideas but differs in one important respect: as you are required to discuss a particular problem, you are not free to interpret a subject in any way you wish. An ability to reason a capacity for arranging ideas in logical order is the important requirements of an argumentative essay. In addition to this you must draw largely on your general knowledge: what you know is far more important than you imagine or observe.

He adds that the ability to write a good argumentative essay depends not only on what you know but on how well you can use what you know. A few facts which are used well can be far more effective than a great number which do not add anything significant to the essay. He also says that argumentative topics cannot be interpreted in a wide variety ways. The meaning of a subject is usually immediately clear and there should be no doubt.

Moreover, Alexander asserts the chief things that will be expected to do when writing argumentative essay:

- (a). to argue for or against a proposition without necessarily attempting to persuade the reader to agree with you. Your aim here is simply to present a viewpoint.
- (b). to argue in such a way as to persuade the reader to agree with you.
- (c). to attempt to solve a problem.
- (d). to discuss a problem without necessarily arriving at a solution.

Furthermore, Alexander (1965:104-105) argues that it is easy to understand the function of the introduction, development, and conclusion if you think of an argumentative essay in terms of a geometrical theorem. You begin with something to prove or to explain; you have a 'given' amount of information (facts); using this information, you go on to your 'proof' either by using facts to prove one or a number of general statements (induction), or by a process of reasoning: inferring one idea from another (deduction). In this way you arrive at a final conclusion which has evolved from the foregoing argument.

(a). *Introduction*. This should be devoted to a close examination of the statement. Clear indication of the way you intend to define your attitude should be given to the reader. The whole argument that is to follow will be built on the initial premise which is contained in the introduction.

(b). *Development*. Devote that first one or two paragraphs to consideration of the other side of the case before amplifying your views. From the one, each paragraph you write must add something new and important to your argument.

(c). *Conclusion*. Here you may in some way re-state your initial premise. If you have convincingly 'proved' your case, the premise will have a new meaning for the reader. If, on the other hand, it has not been possible to arrive at a satisfactory solution, you should point out way this is so.

To have a good argumentative essay students must understand the basic, workable approach that commonly used by Smalley & Reuten, 1982:334-335), they are:

- a. Introduction. Usually the writer divides the introductory material in two paragraphs: the first one introducing the problem and the thesis and the second one explaining additional information, providing definition, in other words, giving background information necessary for the argument.
- b. Reason. It is a good idea to spend one paragraph for each reason. Two or three reasons typical.
- c. Refutation. Depending on how many points the writer wishes to address, the refutation can take from one to three paragraphs.
- d. Conclusion.

Furthermore, they add that in planning an argumentative essay should consider some characteristics:

1. The argumentative essay should introduce and explain the issues or cases.
2. The argumentative essay should offer reasons and support for those reasons.
3. The argumentative essay should refute opposing arguments. If the opponent does have a valid point, concede that point.
4. The conclusion should logically follow the argument.

Meanwhile, Brereton (1978:77-78) adds that there are points in handling argument in an essay:

1. Order the reasons. In essay you will have three good reasons for believing in your side of the thesis. The most important point should never be

second. Put it at the beginning or, even better, at the end, and draw attention to it by saying “most important of all,” or “The main reason.” An alternative arrangement of an essay is to have four paragraphs: one long main-body paragraph that attacks your opponents’ reasons and another long main-body paragraph that presents your own reasons.

2. Make concessions. Admit that your opponent has some good points. By anticipating disagreement, you can modify your audience’s reaction to them, and you will also seem fairer if you bring up some weak points of your own argument.
3. Be fair. Because the readers want a sensible argument, they will not be convinced. They also will detect any appeals to their emotions without good reason.

Below the example of a good argumentative essay (Langan, 2001:301-302):

Sports-Crazy America

Introductory Paragraph Almost all Americans are involved with sports in some way. They may play basketball or volleyball or go swimming or skiing. They may watch football or basketball games on the high school, college, or professional level. Sports may seem like an innocent pleasure, but it is important to look under the surface. In reality, sports have reached a point where they play too large part in daily life. They take up too much media time, play too large a role in the raising of the children, and give too much power and prestige to athletes.

**Body/
First supporting paragraph** The overemphasis on sports can be seen most obviously in the vast media coverage of athletic events. It seems as if every bowl game play-off, tournament, trial, bout, race, meet, or match is shown on one television channel or another. On Saturday and Sunday, a check of TV Guide will show almost forty sports programs on network television alone, and many more on cable stations. In addition, sports make up about 30 percent of local news at six and eleven, and network world news shows often devote several minutes to major American sports events. Radio offers a full roster of games and a wide assortment of sports talk shows. Furthermore, many daily papers such as USA Today are

devoting more and more space to sports coverage, often in an attempt to improve circulation. The paper with the biggest sports section is the one people will buy.

Body/
second
supporting
paragraph

The way we raise and educate our children also illustrate our sports mania. As early as age six or seven, kids are placed in little leagues, often to play under screaming coaches and pressuring parents. Later, in high school, students who are singled out by the school and by the community are not those who are best academically but those who are best athletically. And college sometimes seems to be more about sports than about learning. The United State may be the only country in the world where people often think of their colleges as teams first and school second. The names Penn State, Notre Dame, and Southern Cal mean “sports” to the public.

Body/
third
supporting
paragraph

Our sports craziness is especially evident in the prestige given to athletes in the United States. For one thing, we reward them with enormous salaries. In 1995, for example, basketball player average over \$1,000,000 a year; the average annual salary in the United States is \$20,000. Besides their huge salaries, athletes receive the awe, the admiration, and sometimes the votes of the public. Kids look up to a Kobe Bryant or a Roger Clemens as a true hero, where adults wear the jerseys and jackets of their favorite teams. Ex-players become senators and congressmen. And an athlete like Mia Hamm or Tiger Woods needs to make only one commercial for advertisers to see the sales of a product boom.

Concluding
Paragraph

Americans are truly mad about sports. Perhaps we like to see the competitiveness we experience in our daily lives acted out on playing fields. Perhaps we need heroes who can achieve clear-cut victories in the space of only an hour or two. Whatever the reason, the sports scene country is more popular than ever.

2.4. Essay organization

Writing an essay is not more difficult than writing a paragraph except that an essay is longer. Oshima & Hogue (1999: 101) say that the principles of organization essay and paragraph are the same, so if you can write a good paragraph, you can write a good essay, too. Saraka (1988: 193) says that essay organization is based on similar paragraph organizations. If a paragraph contains a topic sentence, supporting sentences, and a concluding sentence, then an essay may consist of an introductory paragraph, body paragraphs and a concluding

paragraph. The essence of the paragraphs is an essay in miniature. The only difference is that an essay is longer and more complex than a paragraph is.

2.4.1. Introductory paragraph

Introductory paragraph is a paragraph which begins the writing. It is placed at the first part of the whole writing so it also can be called as the 'face' of the writing. Introductory paragraph usually consists of one paragraph but it is also possible if it consists of two paragraphs. Smalley & Ruetten (1982:139) say that the introduction is usually one paragraph (sometimes two or more) that introduces the topic and the central idea of the essay. Introductory paragraph is one of the most important parts in writing, because it is the first paragraph which will be read first by the readers, so this paragraph will determine whether the readers will read all the paragraphs or not.

In written form, English is derived into paragraphs to distinguish one main idea from other main ideas. Paragraph develops a topic that is basically the subject of the paragraph; it is what the paragraph is about. Brereton (1978:1) states that the paragraph is the basic unit of composition. A paragraph is simply a group of sentences about a single main idea or point. The sentences that form the paragraph all contribute to the point; they make it more complete and understandable than any single sentence could.

Paragraph that lies in the very first of the essay is called *introductory paragraph*. Brereton (1978:36) states that introductory paragraph presents the subject and states the thesis sentence or main point that you want your readers to recognize. An introduction comes at the beginning of an essay, but first you should decide on the thesis sentence, the one sentence that contains the main point

of the whole essay. Only when you have a satisfactory thesis sentence should you begin thinking about how to introduce the essay.

Saraka (1988: 181) says that the introductory paragraph is a paragraph which consists of two main parts: a few general statements about the subject discussed and a thesis statement to state the specific subdivisions of the topic and the plan of the paper discussed. A thesis statement for an essay is just like a topic sentence for a paragraph. It deals with the specific topic and the controlling idea or major subdivisions of the topic.

Oshima & Hogue (1999: 103) add that the first sentence in an introductory paragraph should be a very general comment about a subject. Its purpose is to attract the reader's attention and to give background information on the topic. Each subsequent sentence should become more specific than the previous one and finally lead into the thesis statement.

Saraka (1988: 182), in addition, says that the first sentence of the introductory paragraph sounds like a general comment about the subject, moving gradually to a more specific one and leading into a thesis statement, and this statement serves major function in introduction, stating the specific topics, and listing the major subtopic.

Normally the introductory paragraph serves several functions and it has the main function: to offer general statement, introducing the topic of the essay and giving the background information of the topic; and to give the statement which states the main topic, lists the subdivisions of the topic, and indicates the technique of the organization of the whole paper. Other functions are: it names the subject of the paper; it indicates what idea will be handled or how it will come.

Thus, it gives the audience a proper frame of mind to receive what is to follow. It often employs words, such as *first of all*, *at first*, *to start* and the like (Saraka, 1988:181).

Langan (2001:296) states that introductory paragraph should do three things:

1. attract the reader's interest. Using one of the suggested methods of introduction.
2. present a thesis sentence—a clear, direct statement of the central idea that will develop in the paper. The thesis statement, like a topic sentence, should have a keyword or – words reflecting the attitude about the subject.
3. indicate a plan of development—a preview of the major points that will support the thesis statement, listed in the order in which they will be presented. In some cases, the thesis statement and plan of development may appear in the same sentence. In some cases, also, the plan of development may be omitted.

Moreover, Oshima & Hogue (1999: 101) add that introductory paragraph has four purposes:

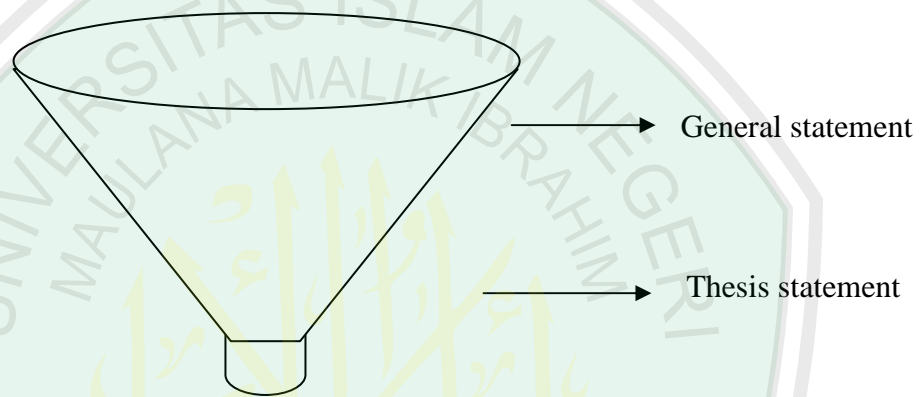
1. it introduces the topic of the essay.
2. it gives a general background of the topic.
3. it often indicates the overall “plan” of the essay.
4. it should arouse the reader's interest in the topic.

The introductory paragraph usually attempts to do three things:

- introduce the topic with some indication of its inherent interest or importance, and a clear definition of the boundaries of the subject area

- indicate the structure and/or methodology of the essay, often with the major sections or the structural principle clearly stated
- state the thesis, preferably in a single, arguable statement with a clear main clause. (<http://www.writing.ucsb.edu/faculty/donelan/intro.html>)

To sum up, an introductory paragraph is just like a funnel, very wide at the top, narrower in the middle and very small at the neck (Oshima & Hogue, 1999:104).



Everything in the introduction must clearly introduce the subject of the writing and not appear to be irrelevant to that subject. The introductory paragraph should also include the thesis statement which contains of facts that are relevant to the subject or give a view which opposes the writer position plus some evidence which the writer plan to develop fully later.

(http://grammar.ccc.commnet.edu/grammar/five_par.htm)

Finally, the introductory paragraph must indicate the order of the argument to show how and in what order the writer will present evidence to support the thesis. If the subject is an especially complicated one, it may not be able to indicate the order in a single sentence, and should not try to do so if that sentence becomes unduly complicated. In such cases the writer should feel free to

indicate the order of their essay in several sentences.

(<http://www.writing.ucsb.edu/faculty/donelan/intro.html>)

From the explanation above we can conclude that the introductory paragraph has two parts (Oshima & Hogue, 1999:101):

- General statement
- Thesis statement

General statement has two purposes. First is to introduce the topic of the essay, and second is to give background information on the topic (Oshima & Hogue, 1999:103).

Thesis statement is the most important sentence in the introductory paragraph. It states the specific topic and often lists the major subtopics that will be discussed in the body of the essay. Furthermore, it may indicate the method of organization such as chronological order or order of importance (Oshima & Hogue, 1999:103). Here the characteristic or thesis statement:

- states the main topic
- often lists subdivisions of the topic or subtopics
- may indicate the method of organization of the entire paper
- is usually the last sentence in the introductory paragraph

Fine (2003: 46-47) says that thesis appears in the essay's introduction, frequently at the end of the section. However, a thesis can also be in the beginning or middle of the introduction. In some essays, the thesis is not stated instead. It is strongly implicit by the details in the essay. When the thesis is not stated, the critical reader must infer the thesis.

Smalley & Ruetten (1982: 140-141) say that the sentence containing the central idea in the essay is called the thesis statement. The thesis statement is similar to the topic sentence in that it contains an expression of an attitude, opinion, or idea about a topic; unlike the topic sentence, however, the thesis statement is broader and expresses the controlling idea for the entire paper. In fact, each of developmental paragraphs should have a controlling idea that echoes or relates to the controlling idea—central idea—in the thesis statement.

Here are a few points to remember about the thesis statement

1. the thesis statement should be expressed in a complete sentence.

Since the thesis statement is the main statement for the entire essay, it should express a complete thought; therefore, it should be expressed in a complete sentence. And since it makes a statement, it should not be written as a question.

Not a thesis statement: My fear of the dark.

Thesis statement: My fear of the dark has made my life miserable.

2. a thesis statement expresses an opinion, attitude, or idea; it does not simply announce the topic the essay will develop.

Not a thesis statement: I am going to discuss the effects of radiation.

Thesis statement: The effects of radiation are often unpredictable.

3. a thesis should express an opinion; it should not express a fact.

Since the thesis statement expresses an attitude, opinion, or idea about a topic, the thesis statement is really a statement that someone could disagree with. The thesis statement, therefore, is a statement that needs to be explained or proved.

Not a thesis statement: Cows produce milk.

Thesis statement: The milk cows produce is not always fit for human consumption.

Not a thesis statement: There are many advantages and disadvantages to going to college. (Not an arguable point.)

Thesis statement: The advantages to going to college for outweigh the disadvantages.

4. the thesis statement should express only one idea toward one topic; if a thesis statement contains two or more ideas, the essay runs the risk of lacking unity and coherence.

Not a thesis statement: Going to college in the Midwest can be fun, and have found that living in a suburb a large city, is the best way to live while at college.

Thesis statement: Going to college in the Midwest can be fun.

2.4.1.1. The methods of writing introductory paragraphs.

Introductory paragraph is the face of the whole writing, so that it has to be interesting in order to capture the readers' interest or attention. A good organization of introductory paragraph will make the readers' enjoy reading the article until the end. This kind of opening requires a lot of skill, if the writers do a good job in the opening, they will draw the reader into their "experience." From these reasons, the writers' have to be smart in adjusting what method that will they use to start their writing.

Smalley & Ruetten (1982:142-143) states that there are four basic type of introduction: turnabout, dramatic Entrance, relevant Quotation, and funnel.

2.4.1.1.5. Turnabout

This type of introduction opens with a few sentences summarizing a point of view that is actually the opposite of the writer's own the thesis. By the end of the introduction, the writer makes a complete turnabout and presents his or her thesis, the opposite of what he or she started out with. Turnabout opens generally and congenially and has this dramatic shift in ideas. In other words, in the turn about the writer sets up the opponent's view to attack. This technique is useful when the writer's purpose in the essay is to argue a point or to clear up a commonly held misconception (Smalley & Ruetten, 1982:228)

We live in an area where television is the national pastime. Since the invention of the television set, people have been spending more of their free time watching television than doing anything else. Many of the television addicts feel that this particular pastime is not a bad one; indeed, they argue that people can learn a great deal watching television. I am sure that if you look long and hard enough, you can probably find some programs that are educationally motivating. But, for the most part, I say that watching television is a waste of time.

In Langan word (2001:297-298), this type of introduction is "contrast," in which the writer starts with an idea or situation that is the opposite of the one the writer will develop. This approach works because the readers will be surprised, and then intrigued, by the contrast between the opening idea and the thesis that follows it.

2.4.1.1.6. Dramatic Entrance

This method opens with a narrative, descriptive, dramatic examples pertinent to the topic. This introduction method serves the purpose of a dramatic or humorous opening that will generate interest in the reader (Smalley & Ruetten, 1982:259). There are various ways to make a dramatic entrance. One way is to

describe a scene that introduces the reader to the subject of the essay (Smalley & Ruetten, 1982:259). Another way is giving a particularly interesting example that illustrates the thesis or is pertinent to the topic; it can open with an effect if the paper is analyzing causes or a cause if it is analyzing effects (Smalley & Ruetten, 1982:296).

The rain pours as if running from faucet, lightning streaks across the dark restless sky, and thunder pounds the roof and walls of the house. All of a sudden the wind kicks up. Trees sway madly back and forth; loose objects are picked up and thrown all around. The house creaks and moans with every gust of wind. Windows are broken by pieces of shingle from a neighbor's roof or by loose objects picked up by the wind. Power lines snap like thread. The unprepared house and its occupants are in grave danger as the awesome hurricane approaches. Had they prepared for the hurricane, they might not be in such danger. Indeed, careful preparation before a hurricane is essential to life and property.

Anecdote is a word used by Langan for this method; in which the writer uses an incident or brief story. Stories are naturally interesting. They appeal to a reader's curiosity. In the introduction, an anecdote will grab the reader's attention right away. The story should be brief and should be related to the central idea. The incident in the story can be something that happened to the writer, something that the writer may have heard about or something that the writer have read about in a newspaper or magazine.

2.4.1.1.7. Relevant Quotation

An essay with this type of introduction opens with a quotation by an authority on the topic or by someone else who says something relevant to what is discussed in the essay. The writers usually will also begin with a famous quotation and then work that into their topic (Smalley & Ruetten, 1982:299).

“As an airplane or missile becomes more complicated,” warned James Fallows in his 1981 book *National Defense*, “the probability that all its parts will be working at the same time goes down.” Indeed, the reliability and fire power of modern U.S. military hardware depend heavily on the increasingly complex electric circuits. This worrisome vulnerability prompted Pentagon officials more than two years ago to launch an extensive probe of microchip suppliers in order to spot any lax manufacturing practices. Last week the inquiry produced an indictment against a major electronics company.

—“Test Case—A Defense Contractor is Fined,” *Time*, March 19, 1984. P. 47

Langan also uses the word “Quotation” for type of opening essay by quoting another person's words. He says that a quotation can be something the writer has read in a book or an article. It can also be something that the writer has heard: a popular saying or proverb (“Never give advice to a friend”); a current or recent advertising slogan (“My father always says...”). Using a quotation in the writer's introductory paragraph lets them add someone else's voice to their own.

2.4.1.1.8. Funnel

The funnel is perhaps the most common type of introductory paragraph. It is so-called because the ideas progress from the general to the specific just as a funnel is wide at the top and narrow at the bottom. The approach is to open with a general statement about the topic and then to work toward a more specific thesis statement at or near the end of the introduction. Not only should the opening statement be general; it should be congenial as well and do not alienate the reader (Smalley & Ruetten, 1982:143).

Traveling to a foreign country is always interesting, especially if it is a country that is completely different from your own. You can delight in testing new foods, seeing new sights, and learning about different customs, some of which may seem very curious. If you were to visit my country, for instance, as these three examples will illustrate.

Broad statement is the word that is used by Langan for this kind of opening that begins with a broad or general statement. The general statement of the topic then is narrowed down to the thesis statement. Broad, general statements ease the reader into the thesis statement by providing a background for it.

2.4.2. Development paragraph

Organizing an essay is essentially the same as organizing a paragraph. The only difference is that instead of working with single sentence you are working with paragraph. The topic of an essay is too long and too complex to be dealt with in just one paragraph. After the topic has been introduced, it needs to be elaborated in the body paragraph. This selection has to greatest number of paragraphs since it is the development of the ideas in the introduction.

The body of an essay discusses your subdivided topics, one by one. It contains as many paragraphs as necessary to explain the controlling ideas in the thesis statement (Oshima & Hogue, 1999:119). Brereton (1978:24) says that body of an essay is used to explain your point and persuades the reader that you are right.

In addition, Oshima & Hogue (1999: 101) state that body paragraph consists of one or more paragraphs. Each paragraph develops a subdivision of your topic, so the number of paragraphs in the body will vary with the number of subdivisions or subtopics. The body is the longest part of the essay and can contain as many paragraphs as necessary to support the controlling ideas of your thesis statement. The paragraphs of the body of the essay are like the main supporting points in a single paragraph. Furthermore, you can organize the

paragraphs in an essay just as you organize the ideas in a paragraph by chronological order of ideas, comparison and contrast, etc.

Saraka (1988, 191-192) says that the body of an essay varies from one to another. It depends upon the number of subdivisions of the topic stated. Each subdivision develops sequentially to reach a sense of unity and completeness in a coherent way. Viewed from a wider perspective, the paragraphs of the body are like the main supporting points of a paragraph. The ways to develop the thought pattern of an essay are the same as those for a paragraph.

Smalley & Ruetten (1982:146) assert that body or developmental paragraphs is the heart of the essay, for their function is to explain, illustrate, discuss, or prove the thesis. Below are points about the developmental paragraphs:

- a. each developmental paragraph discusses one aspect of the main topic.
- b. the controlling idea in the developmental paragraphs should echoes the central idea in the thesis statement.
- c. the developmental paragraphs should have coherence and unity.

Moreover, Saraka (1988, 193) adds that usually a body of an essay contains more paragraphs than any other parts: and the body paragraphs do the main work of an essay. As you formulate your thought frame and let your ideas roll forward, you will soon discover new ideas in your essay. The reader, as you know, is reading to find thing new, something that he does not know. The information that the reader must have is generated in paragraphs of concrete supports. Clear information makes your essay worth reading and unique.

2.4.3. Concluding paragraph

The final paragraph in an essay is the conclusion, which tells the reader that you have completed an essay. First, you write a summary of the main points discussed in the body of the essay or write the thesis statement in different words. Then you add your final comments on the subject—food for thought (something to think about). Take this opportunity to make a strong, effective message that the reader will remember. The concluding paragraph consists of

1. a summary of the main points, or a restatement of your thesis in different words
2. your final comment on the subject, based on the information you have provided (Oshima & Hogue, 1999: 107)

Saraka (1988: 197) states that concluding paragraph is a paragraph in which a writer concludes or restates at the end of the paper (closure). It deals with either a summary, paraphrase, précis of the main ideas or a restatement of the thesis. This paragraph often uses: transition signals as: in conclusion, finally, to infer, and the like.

He adds that like the concluding sentence of a paragraph, a conclusion of an essay is a summery review of the main points presented in the body. This is a very important part of the essay. In addition, you need to state the ideas you infer clearly and effectively; you need to deliver a strong message that will be easier to understand; you need to leave the readers deep impression that these are the only logical facts and truths are on the subject.

Brereton (1978, 40) argues that essay do not simply end suddenly. A separate, brief paragraph ties together everything that has been said about the thesis sentence, this final paragraph answers the question “so what?” It wraps up

the entire essay and gives the reader the feeling that the essay has reached a real goal.

Moreover, Saraka (1988, 197) states that concluding paragraph of an essay is similar to the introduction in so far as it returns to the main point. The conclusion should not, however, simply mirror the introduction; the reader should sense a feeling for closure. In a conclusion, the writer might provide a final example of this thesis. Offer a solution to the problem posed in the essay, or predict the consequences of an action.

Meanwhile, Brereton (1978, 40-41) argues that there are two different points to remember about writing conclusions.

1. You must show your readers that you have finished what you set out to say.

The introductory paragraph gave the thesis sentence, the main point of the essay.

The concluding paragraph shows that your train of thought begun with the thesis sentence is ended.

2. Your conclusion should be clearly related to the main body paragraphs. It is not a catchall for leftover evidence or examples that should have been in earlier paragraphs. Neither is a conclusion the place to begin a new, unrelated train of thought.

Again, Saraka (1988, 197) adds that normally, a concluding paragraph rounds off an essay. It strongly restates the thesis in some way but surely not identical words you employed in introductory paragraph. The main ideas inferred must be in conclusion though the words will be different. If your conclusion is sufficient, you may leave the reader with a feeling of incompleteness, a sense of, "Well, that was abrupt."

Smaley & Ruetten (1982:151) state that there are some points in a standard approach to writing concluding paragraph.

- a. A conclusion can restart the main point (subtopic) discussed. This restatement should be brief; after all, you have already discussed them at length.
- b. A conclusion can restate the thesis. Generally, to avoid sounding repetitious, it is a good idea to restate the thesis in different word. The restatement of the thesis is really a reassertion of its importance or validity.
- c. A conclusion should not, however, bring up a new topic.

Brereton (1978, 41-42) asserts the characteristics of good conclusion:

1. They answer the question “so what?” they drive home the points made earlier.

Sports, then, are in immense program of popular entertainment. The different teams and games serve to take everyday concerns off people’s minds by diverting them with action, drama, and heroism. This “safety valve” function might be the most important role sports can play; they give Americans a chance to escape from reality.

3. They emphasize the important points. Points mentioned in the main body paragraphs are restated briefly and directly.

Violence cannot be separated from sports. The most violent sports—boxing, football, hickey, auto racing—are among the most popular. It all adds up to a single point: violence is an essential part of these sports we all watch.

4. They raise an important question and answer it. (Where do we go from here?)

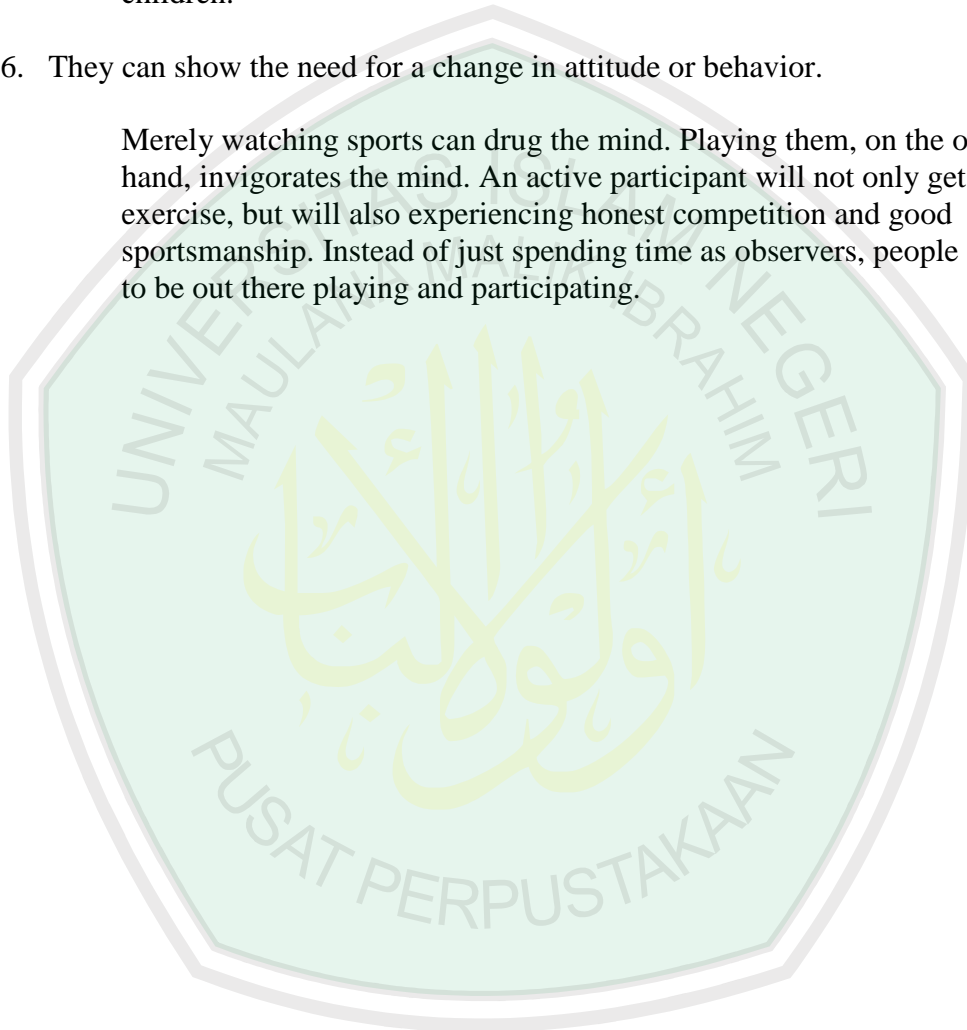
Are sports the key to understanding Americans? I think they are. As a national form of escape, they show where our true values lie.

5. They may employ a quotation. Words said by well-known people help to sum up the point of the thesis sentence.

“Winning is the only thing” was the motto of the great coach, Vince Lombardi. If athletes believed this saying, sports would be much more violent than they are. The stress on winning is far too important among our coaches and adults today, and can have harmful effects on all young children.

6. They can show the need for a change in attitude or behavior.

Merely watching sports can drug the mind. Playing them, on the other hand, invigorates the mind. An active participant will not only get good exercise, but will also experiencing honest competition and good sportsmanship. Instead of just spending time as observers, people ought to be out there playing and participating.



CHAPTER III

RESEARCH METHOD

This chapter presents the research design, data sources, research subject, research instrument, data collections, and data analysis.

3.2. Research Design

This study is classified into a descriptive qualitative method since the data is not deal with calculating and number. Bogdan (1998:77) says that “the qualitative inquirer deals with the data that are in the form of words, rather than numbers and statistic.” Moreover, Bogdan & Taylor in Moleong (2006:4) say that qualitative method is a research procedure which results descriptive data in the form of words. In line with them, Strauss & Corbin in Syamsuddin & Damaianti (2006:73) also say that the qualitative is a research which the results is gained not from statistic and calculating procedure, although the data collected might be analyzed through calculating. Merriem in Cresswell (1994: 145) also state that qualitative research is descriptive in that the researcher is interested in process, meaning, and understanding through words or pictures. The process of qualitative research is inductive in that the researcher builds abstractions, concepts, hypothesis, and theories from details. This research aims to describe the data, the thesis statement and the methods of writing an introductory paragraph in the articles written in Jakarta Post.

3.2. Data Sources

The main data source in this study is texts (Lofland & Lofland in Moleong, 2006:157). The data of this study were taken from all articles included in opinion column of Jakarta Post of opinion column in Jakarta Post published in the 1st to 14th February, 2008. The publication on the 7th of February was not available and Sunday publication did not have opinion column, therefore, those publications were not included for analysis. The data taken for analysis were those containing of articles with introductory paragraphs.

3.7. Research Subject

The subject of this research is Jakarta Post newspaper in first two weeks of February from 1st – 14th, 2008 (except for those published 7th of February 2008 and Sunday). Therefore, the analysis of this subject will only be focused on the introductory paragraph of the opinion column of Jakarta Post.

3.8. Research Instrument

Following Guba & Lincoln in Stainback & Stainback (1988:15), this study employs the researcher herself as the primary instrument to gather data. One important point from this is that human plays the best instrument for grasping the meaning people give to events in their lives. This is because human is the only instrument with sufficient adaptability to encompass and adjust to the variety of realities that will be encountered when doing qualitative research in natural settings. The key instrument of the research is the writer herself because there are no other research instruments which are suitable to gain the data. The writer observes and acts actively in finding the accurate data.

3.9.Data Collections

In collecting the original and valid data, this research follows some steps: (1) collecting the data from opinion column of Jakarta Post newspaper, (2) reading the data taken from the articles of introductory paragraphs comprehensively and analytically, (3) selecting and classifying the data systematically in accordance to the problems of study.

3.10. Data Analysis

After obtaining the data from opinion column of Jakarta Post, they are analyzed by using several steps: (1) obtaining the data, (2) scanning to select the article of opinion column of Jakarta Post, (3) intensive reading to analyze per article of opinion column, (4) explaining the way the writer present their introductory paragraphs in each article to find out the methods of writing introductory paragraphs they used. To confirm the 4 methods of writing introductory paragraphs that are identified, there are symbols that are given in the articles of opinion column of Jakarta Post to explain the methods of writing introductory paragraphs used; T as turnabout, D as dramatic entrance, Q as relevant quotation, and F as funnel. (5) explaining the way the writer state the thesis statement in introductory paragraphs to identify whether the writer fulfill the characteristic of thesis statement proposed by Smalley, (6) discussing and interpreting the data from each category, (7) discussing the whole data sources, and (8) concluding the result based on the findings.

CHAPTER IV

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

This chapter reports the finding of the analysis based on the formulated research questions as stated in Chapter I. The finding is then continued to further discussion about the methods used and about thesis statement.

4.1. Findings

There are 40 articles that are researched. Those articles are collected from Opinion column of The Jakarta Post. The arrangement of the data is based on the sequence of its date of publication from 1st until 14th of February, 2008.

4.1.1. February 1, 2008

- **Data 1. Living in a world where flash beats substance**

The article entitle **Living in a world where flash beats substance** was written by Iyan Nurmansyah (Sussex, UK) who holds a bachelor degree in International Relations from the Scholl of Social science and Cultural Studies in the University of Sussex. This article contains 17 paragraphs, and first three of them are the introductory paragraphs.

A few days before the death of Soeharta, the Alliance of Independent Journalists and some media observers expressed concern there might be a 'plot' among major media companies to shape people's positive perception of the country's second president.

Some people have frowned upon the continuous "sympathetic" media reportage since the day his health started to fail, to the day of his death and funeral. The urge to forgive him accompanied by *Gugur Bunga* (a song dedicated to the death of a hero) are viewed as a conspiracy.

But it is hard to buy into such a conspiracy theory. To begin with, it just seems too dramatic to imagine all the media bosses together in a fancy location unscrupulously masterminding a plot to rescue Soeharto's image.

This kind of scenario would make a good TV drama, but in a real life it sounds more like a fantasy.

Introductory paragraph in this article contains three paragraphs. The writer uses turnabout as a method of introduction. The writer opens with a statement about the general hold view that Alliance of Independent Journalists and some media observers concern there might be a plot among major media companies to shape people's positive perception of the former president Soeharto. But by the end, in the 3rd paragraph the writer presents the opposite of the first statement, about the difficulties to shape people's positive perception toward Soeharto by such a conspiracy theory.

The thesis statement or this article states in the 3rd paragraph, it is hard to buy into such a conspiracy theory. That thesis statement fulfills the characteristics of thesis statement proposed by Smalley & Ruetten, because that thesis statement is written in complete sentence, expresses an opinion (the writer expresses his opinion that to shape people's positive impression is not an easy effort), and contains only one idea (the difficulties to shape people's positive impression).

The use of turnabout as a method of introduction is useful when the writer's purpose in the article is to argue a point or to clear up a commonly held misconception. This article tells about that print of electronic media only produce what the readers or spectators want to read and watch. The writer want to clear up that, in Soeharo's case, it is not media who are suspected in the term of giving positive image to Soeharto but it is Soeharto himself who still sparks that fascinates most of us.

- **Data 2. The forgotten Ahmadiyah women**

The forgotten Ahmadiyah women tells about women life in Ahmadiyah; their struggle of being Ahmadies and their role in Ahmady belief. This article, which contains 13 paragraphs, was written by Winy Trianita (Jakarta) who is a graduate student in the Interdisciplinary Islamic Studies Program at UIN Jakarta. Introductory paragraph of this article contains of just one paragraph.

Watching violence against Ahmadiyah on TV (again!) has encouraged me to presents another side of the Ahmadiyah which usually receives little public attention; i.e. Ahmadi women.

In this introduction, the writer directly states her reason that makes her writes an article about Ahmady Woman, Watching violence against Ahmadiyah on TV. This kind of introduction can be said that she uses dramatic entrance as a method, because the writer writes first the cause since the paper identifies effect. However, this article is not telling about the effect, this article tells about the life of Ahmady Women. The development paragraphs of this article are about women role in Ahmadiyah belief. So, the using of dramatic entrance method of introductory is not proper.

The thesis statement is has encouraged me to presents another side of the Ahmadiyah. This thesis statement is not a complete sentence because there is no subject of the sentence. However, this thesis statement shows the writer attitude toward the violence against Ahmadiyah and also brings one idea—another side of Ahmadiyah— toward one topic, Ahmadi women. So this introductory paragraph has thesis statement which does not fulfill all the characteristics of thesis statement proposed by Smalley & Ruetten.

- **Data 3. Fighting graft a global public good**

This article was written by Managing Director of World Bank Group, Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala (Nusa Dua, Bali). This article contains 15 paragraphs.

The first five paragraphs are the introductions.

The high development cost of corruption is something almost everyone agrees on today. It takes a disproportionate toll on the poor, by undermining the delivery of public services, creates macroeconomic uncertainty, taints the financial sector, and worsens the investment climate.

Moving up from the lowest end of the corruption perception distribution to a position right in the middle of the pack may result in an increase in investment by as much as 8 percent of GDP.

Similarly, the per capita income growth may rise by over 1 per cent. But the real cost of corruption should be measured by the effect it has on human lives.

Every US\$100 million of stolen assets restituted to a developing country could fund full immunization for 4 million children, or approximately 250 thousand water connections, or 50-100 million Artemisinin based treatments for malaria.

Now that there is wide spread recognition of the development impact of corruption, the fundamental question has become: How do we go about solving this problem? Good governance is a global public good that requires collective action. The landmark United Nations Convention against Corruption is the single most important international agreement reflecting this idea.

The writer uses funnel as a method of introductory paragraphs. In the first paragraph, the writer writes about corruption that takes a disproportionate toll on the poor and also in the economic. Then in the second paragraph, the writer writes about the impact of corruption in investment. The third paragraph is about the effect of corruption in human lives. In the fifth paragraphs, the writer starts to focus on the specific topic about the way of government to solve corruption problem. This article is about the effort of developing country against or fighting the corruption. The second to third paragraph are alike, that is the supporting detail of the first paragraph, in this case the writer gives more information in detail about the first paragraph. In

the fifth paragraph the writer states the thesis of the whole discussion, about the way of government in solving corruption.

The thesis statement of this article is Good governance is a global public good that requires collective action. This thesis statement fulfills the characteristics of thesis statement proposed by Smalley & Ruetten, because it is expressed in complete sentence, expresses an opinion, does not express a fact, and brings one idea toward one topic.

• **Data 4. Stagflation and the business cycle**

Stagflation and the business cycle was written by Christopher Lingle (Bangkok). He is a research scholar at the Centre for Civil Society in New Delhi and Visiting Professor of Economics at Universidad Francisco Morraquín in Guatemala. This article contains 29 paragraphs. The first three paragraphs are the introductory paragraphs.

Fears of global slow-down have come in the wake of global investment boom driven by cheap credit, a central-bank-induced liquidity crisis.

It is likely that this marks the beginning of the liquidation phase of the current business cycle.

Unlike two recent business cycles, the current correction involves rising price levels combined with slow or perhaps negative economic growth. The worry should be whether this presages a return of “stagflation” or what might be called an inflationary depression.

Funnel is a method that is used by the writer to introduce his article. The writer opens with a general statement about the fears of global coming in the wake of global investment, in the 1st paragraph. In the 2nd paragraph, he continues that this marks the beginning of the liquidation phase of the current business cycle. In the 3rd paragraph, the writer shapes his general statement with his thesis statement, The worry should be whether this presages

a return of “stagflation” or what might be called an inflationary depression.

The thesis statement brings only one idea although there is a word ‘or’, because the word ‘or’ there does not mean ‘give an alternative’ but give the other word of ‘stagflation’ (stagflation in other word is an inflationary depression). So this thesis statement fulfills the characteristics of thesis statement proposed by Smalley & Ruetten, because it presents the opinion of the writer, has just one idea, and writes in a complete sentence.

4.1.2. February 2, 2008

- **Data 5. Some practical problems in stolen asset recovery**

This article was written by Yoseph Suardi Sabda (Jakarta). He is a public prosecutor and state attorney. The article entitle **Some practical problems in stolen asset recovery** tells about the articles in UNCAC toward asset recovery. This article contains 25 paragraphs.

“The return of the assets pursuant to United Nations Convention Against Corruption (UNCAC) is a fundamental principle and state parties shall afford one another the widest measure of corruption and assistance in this regard”.

This is not a statement of a political party or an NGO. This is a provision of law contained in Article 51 of UNCAC, Whose state parties concluded their second conference in Bali on Friday.

UNCAC clearly states that “asset recovery” or the return of corruptor’s assets are located to the state that becomes the injurious party due to the corruption is very pivotal. This means that the cooperation between two states parties of UNCAC may result in the extradition, the prosecution, the conviction and the imprisonment of the corruptor.

Indonesia’s previous experience in this regard is not encouraging. In the only one extradition case Indonesia has dandled, complicated legal conditions have resulted in Indonesia failing to extradite Hendra Rahardja, earlier convicted of corruption, from Australia to Indonesia, although both states are bound by extradition treaty. So far, no returned to Indonesia from any state where the assets are located.

Will all the difficulties in this regard be abolished by the entry into force of UNCAC? Will it be easy to extradite the accused and convicted and seize their assets by the enforcement of UNCAC provisions?

Five paragraphs above are the introductory paragraphs of this article. The writer uses relevant quotation in his introduction. The writer opens his article by quoting one of the articles of UNCAC that support his topic, about stolen assets recovery. The writer continues quoting in the next paragraphs. In the fifth paragraph the writer states his statement about the whole discussion by his thesis statement.

The thesis statement is Indonesia's previous experience in this regard is not encouraging. This thesis statement fulfills the characteristics of the thesis statement proposed by Smalley & Ruetten because it is expressed in a complete sentence, expresses an opinion, does not express a fact, and has only one idea toward one topic.

- **Data 6. Does tempeh have politics?**

This article was written by Merlyna Lim (Tempe, Arizona), an Assistant Professor of the school of Justice and Social Inquiry and the Consortium for Science, Policy & Outcomes at Arizona State University in Tempe, the United States. **Does tempeh have politics?** tells about the rising price of tempe in Indonesia. This article contains 37 paragraphs.

What is this “thing” called tempe. No, it’s not the big Tempe in Arizona where I live. It is something that is so dearly familiar to almost each and every Indonesian.

For me tempe also has a very sentimental meaning. My childhood and teenager years in Dayeuhkolot, Bandung, were filled with tempe and tahu (tofu).

My parents were too poor to have meat every day but my mom wanted her children to have enough protein so she put tempe and tahu on our table every day. Yes, every day.

She would buy ten pieces of tahu and one piece of tempe divided into 10.

Each of us would get one piece of each, and dad would get two of each.

Apparently mom believed that protein was highly important to boost the intelligence of her children. Despite whatever the truth maybe, even until today, when asked what's the secret behind her (supposedly) smart children, she will say "tempe and tahu".

Indeed, tempe for my family back then and for many low income families in Indonesia today has very important role.

It's not only tasty food that has become a very much part of daily menu, it's also part of their surviving strategy.

Undoubtedly, protein is important for growth and development during childhood, and for many poor families in Indonesia, tahu and tempe are the most recognizable and most affordable sources of protein.

Recent phenomenon in Indonesia, including the hike of tempe prices leading to the disappearance of the product from marketplaces, are being seen as one of some important chains leading the declining of quality of life for the poor.

And besides, Indonesians have been in love with tempe for decades. No wonder, protest and complaints are everywhere.

Many people are questioning why and how such a thing could happen? And why such a thing suddenly happened after 62 years of independence? Who is to blame?

The rising price of tempe is of course not separated from other things.

The paragraphs above are the introductory paragraphs of this article and the method used is funnel. This article is opened by discussing about tempe and tahu that is so dearly familiar to almost each and every Indonesian. In the second to seventh paragraphs the writer tells about tempe that also has sentimental meaning in her life. Then she continues telling about her childhood experience related to tempe. In the next paragraphs the writer tells about the benefit of tempe. The writer goes more focus in the 11 paragraphs, about the hike of tempe prices then continues to the thesis statement, The rising price of tempe is of course not separated from other things.

The thesis statement of this article is the rising price of tempe is of course not separated from other things. Thesis statement is an opinion that written in complete sentence and bring only one idea toward the topic. So this

thesis statement fulfills the characteristics of thesis statement proposed by Smalley & Ruetten.

- **Data 7. The death of President Soeharto (Part 1)**

The death of President Soeharto was written by Paul J. Keating (Sydney). He is former Australian Prime Minister. This article, which tells about the impacts of Soeharto's life in Australian strategic and history, contains two parts. Part 1 which contains 25 paragraphs was presented on Saturday, February 2, 2008 and the continuing part (part 2) was presented on Monday, February 4, 2008. **The death of President Soeharto (Part 2)** does not have introductory paragraph but directly development paragraphs because this is the continuing article of part I.

The death of Soeharto, the former President of Indonesia, gives all Australians a chance to assess the value of his life and the relationship between Indonesia and Australia.

More than any figure in the post World War II period, including any American president, President Soeharto, by his judgment, goodwill and good sense, had the greatest positive impact on Australia's strategic environment and, hence, on its history.

Introduction of this article consists of two paragraphs which uses funnel method. First, the writer writes about the death of President Soeharto that might give all Australian a chance to assess value of his life and the relationship between Indonesia and Australia. Next, the writer writes more specific one, on his thesis statement, about the greatest positive impact on Australia's strategic environment and, hence, on its history.

Thesis statement of this article is President Soeharto, by his judgment, goodwill and good sense, had the greatest positive impact on Australia's strategic environment and, hence, on its history. This thesis statement is a

complete sentence and brings one idea toward the topic; Soeharto's life had the great positive impact on Australians. So this thesis statement fulfills the characteristics of thesis statement proposed by Smalley & Ruetten.

4.1.3. February 4, 2008

- **Data 8. The possibility of indicting Soeharto after his death**

The article was written by Jennie s. Bev (San Francisco Bay Area), a columnist, doctoral candidate, former law lecturer and a graduate of the University of Indonesia law school. This article tells about the possibility to have Soeharto prosecuted for his alleged crimes about humanity. First one of the 16 paragraphs is introductory paragraph.

Soeharto has died after more than 20 days of being hospitalized. While his family members, close friends and cronies are expressing their grief, more than one million people who have lost loved ones are waiting anxiously for the news that he — even after his death — will be held accountable for his alleged crimes against humanity: the genocide of at least 500,000 during the 1960s, 183,000 during the East Timor occupation and 100,000 in West Papua.

The writer opens the article by writing about the Soeharto's family member, close friends and cronies who express their grief for his death. Then in the next sentence the writer states the statement that opposes the first statement, that there are more than one million people who lost their respect to Soeharto, are waiting to see Soeharto held accountable for his alleged crimes against humanity. This kind of opening is called turnabout because the writer states her thesis that opposes of what she started out with. The use of turnabout method in this article is appropriate since the writer's purpose of this article is to clear up a commonly held misconception.

Thesis statement of this article states in the 1st paragraph, more than one million people who have lost loved ones are waiting anxiously for the news that he — even after his death — will be held accountable for his alleged crimes against humanity. Although this thesis statement is a complex sentence, it is a complete sentence and has one idea toward the topic. So, this thesis statement fulfills the characteristics of thesis statement proposed by Smalley & Ruetten.

- **Data 9. Why Indonesian people are losing interest in democracy**

Why Indonesian people are losing interest in democracy tells about democracy which start losing its interest. This article was written by Christian Harijanto (Jakarta). He is a lecturer of international relations at the University of Indonesia. This article consists 46 paragraphs. Introductory paragraph states in the first four paragraphs.

Time's introduction to its 2007 Person of Year warns its readers this title "is not and has never been an honor".

Vladimir Putin is not a democrat, goes the magazine, in any way the West would define it.

In the time when democracy is considered the paragon in political lexicon, that sort of introduction is needed to quell flabbergasted readers who would think that the endorsement of Putin as a person with great influence over Russia and the world would encourage the practice of over-riding democracy in the name of economic prosperity or other, less-significant values human society appreciates.

But democracy is indeed at its low level, at least for the year 2007, says freedom house.

According to its 2007 report, 38 countries are recorded as having a decline in their freedom index – an index calculated with regard to state's guarantee of their people's political rights and civil liberties.

Against around one-fourth of that number which experienced increase in their freedom index last year, a worrying trends are rising.

In Indonesia, the falling interest in democracy is at least in the air.

The writer uses relevant quotation as a method of introduction, because the writer quotes magazine words that may relate or relevant with the topic he

discusses, Time's magazine introduction "*is not and has never been an honor*". This article is about Indonesian people who start losing interest on democracy. The writer quotes about people considering of Putin as a democrat. In the next paragraph, the writer makes quotation about the low level of democracy in 2007 according to Freedom house.

In Indonesia, the falling interest in democracy is at least in the air is the thesis statement of this article, which states in the 4th paragraph. This complete sentence thesis statement is an opinion that needs further explanation or proof. So, this thesis statement fulfills the characteristics of thesis statement proposed by Smalley & Ruetten.

- **Data 10. Rising China and the implications for SE Asia**

This article was written by Anak Agung Banyu Perwita (Bandung), a Professor of International Relations, Parahyangan Catholic University, Bandung. This article consists of 12 paragraphs. Introductory paragraphs state in the first paragraph.

China started to focus on economic and military modernization programs in the late 1970s. This modernization has elevated China's profile at both the regional and global levels.

In this introduction, the writer uses funnel method, because he introduces the general topic at the first time; the beginning of economic and military modernization programs of China in the late 1970s. Then the writer is more specific; China's profile at both the regional and global levels because of its modernization.

The thesis statement of the article **Rising China and the implications for SE Asia** is This modernization has elevated China's profile at both the

regional and global levels. This thesis statement fulfills the characteristics of thesis statement proposed by Smalley & Ruetten, because it is written in complete sentence, expressed opinion not fact and brings one idea; china's modernization has elevated its profile at both regional and global level.

4.1.4. February 5, 2008

- **Data 11. The fowl and inconvenient truth**

The fowl and inconvenient truth was written by Emmy Fitri (Jakarta), a staff writer at The Jakarta Post. This article contains 34 paragraphs and tells about the government efforts to solve the spread of bird flu virus.

Our tasty bell is ringing again, at least among government officials, because the bird flu virus has just claimed its 125th victim, 101 of which have ended in a vitality.

Recent deaths have been reported from Tangerang in Banten province and Bekasi in West Java, both near-at-hand to Jakarta.

Late detection of the infection is believed to have caused the deaths.

And there is a lingering mystery around the source of H5N1.

The hotspots and the very few days between occurrences of the latest outbreaks have staggered many quarters. Fingers were instantly pointed toward the authorities.

So, what has gone wrong with the ongoing public awareness campaigns and policies and strategies developed by the authorities?

Introductory paragraphs in this article state in the first six paragraphs and uses funnel as the method of opening. The writer discusses first about the rising rate of bird flu's victims. Then she starts to limit it in the fifth paragraph, the authorities' initiative. In the next paragraph, the writer states her thesis, the government programs or strategies to avoid or decrease the rising of bird flu which is in the form of question.

Thesis statement is the writer's statement, so it should be written in the form of statement not question. While in this article, the thesis statement what has gone wrong with the ongoing public awareness campaigns and policies

and strategies developed by the authorities? is a question, so this thesis statement does not fulfill the characteristics of thesis statement proposed by Smalley & Ruetten.

- **Data 12. The global impacts of bird flu**

The global impacts of bird flu was written by Michael Richardson (Singapore). He is a former Asia editor of the International Herald Tribune and also is a security specialist at the Institute of South East Asian Studies in Singapore. This article contains 14 paragraphs. The first two paragraphs are introductory paragraphs.

Asia has been severely jolted by the recent turmoil in credit and stock markets spreading from the United States to other economies around the world. This is a crisis in economic management and the health of financial systems in an interlocking and increasingly interdependent global economy.

But with millions of people crossing national borders by air, land and sea each day for trade, business and tourism, human and animal health are also matters of international concern. Today, a contagious disease in one country can quickly pass to many others. Could a virulent avian influenza virus create a perfect storm of panic by learning to jump easily from birds to people, creating a human transmission chain and global pandemic that kills millions and cripples economies?

To open this article, the writer uses turnabout as a method. The first paragraph is about crisis in economy management and the health of financial system in an interlocking and increasingly interdependent economy in Asia. Then in the second paragraph, the writer states his statement that business and tourism, human and animal health are also matters of international concern, because there are millions people that cross national borders by air, land and sea each day for trade. Next the writer gives his thesis statement to attack the first statement, Today, a contagious disease in one country can quickly pass to many others. The use of turnabout method in introduction is to give an

explanation about misperception that happen and this article has a purpose that there are not only economic crisis and health of financial system that should be concern, but also about human and animal health need more focus.

In expressing her thesis statement, Today, a contagious disease in one country can quickly pass to many others the writer writes it in a complete sentence. It also indicates an opinion that disease of one country can spread to another country quickly. So this thesis statement fulfills the characteristics of thesis statement proposed by Smalley & Ruetten.

• **Data 13. Soeharto's 30-year iron rule**

This article that contains 23 paragraphs tells about the violence during Soeharto's leadership. This article was written by Harry Bhaskara (Jakarta), a staff writer at The Jakarta Post. The first three paragraphs are the introductory paragraphs.

Soeharto's rise and fall has been marked by violence. Million died in the aftermath of the 1965 coup blamed on the communists. Thousands dead as the country degenerated into riots in the years before and after his downfall in 1998.

During his 30-year rule, hundreds of thousands died in a string of conflicts in the country, notably in the prolonged war against rebels in Aceh and East Timor.

Now that he is deceased, it is fair to ask what the factors behind his violent rule were.

Funnel is the method that is used by the writer to open this article.

Soeharto's 30-year iron rule which tells about the factors behind Soeharto violence rule is opened by the discussion about the reign of Soeharto for about 36 years, about violence that happens during his period. In the third paragraph, the writer narrows down this general statement by writing about the factors behind Soeharto violent rule. The thesis statement, it is fair to ask what the

factors behind his violent rule were is written in complete sentence and express one idea, not a fact. So this thesis statement fulfills the characteristics of thesis statement proposed by Smalley & Ruetten.

- **Data 14. Alpine schadenfreude and the U.S. economy**

Alpine schadenfreude and the U.S. economy concerns on economy.

This article was written by Joseph Stiglitz who won the Nobel Prize in 2001 for his work on the economics of information, and he was a Chairman of President Clinton's Council of Economic Advisors and is Professor of Economics at Columbia University. He is also the author, with Linda Bilmes, of *The Three Trillion Dollars War: The True Cost of the Iraq Conflict*.

Not surprisingly, the atmosphere at the year's World Economic Forum was grim. Those who think that globalization, technology, and the market economy will solve the world's problems seemed subdued. Most chastened of all were the bankers.

Against the backdrop of the sub-prime crisis, the disasters at many financial institutions, and the weakening of the stock market, these "masters of the universe" seemed less omniscient than they did a short while ago. And it was not just the bankers who were in the Davos doghouse this year, but also their regulators — the central bankers.

This article contains 17 paragraphs and introductory paragraphs state in the first two paragraphs. This article uses funnel method in its introduction. The writer opens the article by writing about the atmosphere of the world of economic. Then, in the second paragraph, the writer narrows it down by giving a statement about the power decrease of the bankers in solving economy crisis.

The thesis statement of this article is these "masters of the universe" seemed less omniscient than they did a short while ago. This thesis statement is a complete sentence, and expresses the writer opinion that the bankers seem

lose their power in solving the crisis problem. So this thesis statement fulfills the characteristics of thesis statement proposed by Smalley & Ruetten.

• **Data 15. Looking at the unfolding America election**

The article entitles **Looking at the unfolding America election** was written by Tom Plate (Los Angeles), an UCLA Professor, veteran journalist and author of “Confessions of an American Media Man”, 2008. This article contains 21 paragraphs and tells about the view of three leading candidates of American president toward Iraq war.

U.S. presidential elections do not always elucidate issues of outstanding interest to the rest of the world. They can often muddy rather than clarify ranging waters.

The current race of the White House, however, might just prove to be a great clarifier, especially on the issue of the Iraq war.

This is undoubtedly the high-profile foreign-policy problem that the world would like our electoral system to resolve decisively.

At the moment, the three leading candidates to succeed George W. Bush each have separate and distinct positions on war.

This article uses funnel as the methods of introductory paragraphs. This article is started by the statement that U.S presidential elections, that they do not always clarify or make clear about the issue to the other countries in the world especially about Iraq war. Then, in the fourth paragraphs, the idea of this article starts to focus, about the view of three leading president candidate toward Iraq war.

This article does not have clear thesis statement. The underline sentence above indicates the topic that this article tells about the position of three leading president candidate toward Iraq war. So the readers need to read the whole article to catch the main point of this article.

4.1.5. February 6, 2008

- **Data 16. Economist are optimists**

This article was written by Paul Donovan (London), a Managing Director of Global Economics, UBS Investment Bank. This article has 15 paragraphs and first one of them is introductory paragraph.

Economics is sometimes known as the “dismal science”. Economists have reputation for being pessimistic. When compared to equity analysis’ general view of the world, it is certainly true that economists are more conservative in their estimates; whether that is due to excessive pessimism by economists or excessive optimism by equity analysts is best left to history to judge. (History, of course, judges in favor of economists).

This article uses funnel as the method of introduction, because the writer opens with general statement of economics. Next, the writer starts to focus by giving specific statement, about economists’ reputation. The thesis statement is Economists have reputation for being pessimistic. This thesis statement fulfills the characteristics of thesis statement proposed by Smalley & Ruetten, because the writer writes it in a complete sentence, and he expresses his opinion, not a fact.

- **Data 17. I am a Chinese-Indonesia**

This article was written by Aimee Dawis (Jakarta), who teaches in the graduate programs in the University of Indonesia School of Social and Political Sciences, Department of Communication, and the Letters Department of the School of Humanities. This article contains 22 paragraphs and the first five of them are introductory paragraphs.

In December last year, I attended a seminar in Singapore. I was welcomed by the seminar representative at the Changi Airport.

After shaking hand, he asked me, “Are you ethnic Chinese? Your name is not Chinese, but you look Chinese.” I told him that I was Chinese

and he was taken back. "I couldn't tell from your name that you're Chinese," he said.

The puzzlement around my name and identity as an ethnic Chinese from Indonesia continued throughout the one-day seminar.

As the writer and researcher on the ethnic Chinese in Indonesia, I was invited to present my paper on China and Culture Identity of the Chinese in Indonesia.

Hoping to dispel the confusion arising from my name, I decided to begin my presentation by explaining my name and the historical implication and significance of naming among the Chinese in Indonesia.

Method of writing introductory paragraphs that is used by the writer in this article is dramatic entrance. This article is about the process and historical implications of naming for Chinese Indonesia. The writer opens with the description that forms a background of this article. She opens by giving a description of cause why she writes about this topic. Then she goes to her topic about the historical implication and significance of naming among the Chinese in Indonesia. In this article, the writer does not state clearly her thesis statement. In her development paragraphs, she just develops her topic, about the historical implication of naming process for Chinese in Indonesia.

• **Data 18. What Americans expects from 'Super Tuesday'**

This article contains 16 paragraphs. It was written by Richard Quest (Atlanta). He is CNN anchor and correspondent. The introductory paragraphs of this article state in the first four paragraphs.

"It never ends." "It just keeps doing." "Why does it take so long?" some of the international reactions to the seemingly never ending U.S. presidential election process. It seems barely is one President inaugurated than the politicking begins, all over again.

Funnily enough, I have been hearing much the same comments as I travel around California. In the state where the Terminator is government, and where national trends are set, Californians too are getting sick and tired of the never ending politics.

Again and again, they are bombarded with "Will Hillary make it?" "Is America ready for a Black President" "Is John McCain too old?" "Are the

rest too conservative for the liberal west coast?" They have just about had enough! And its still 10 months to the election itself...

But guess what? In the last few weeks suddenly the race has taken on a new life and urgency. And its all because of Super Tuesday.... This year is very different.

To open this article, the writer quotes some international reactions toward U.S. presidential election process; about the exhaustion of the never ending politics. He continues quoting the third paragraphs. This kind of opening article is called relevant quotation method since the writer quotes another people words pertinent to the topic. However, in the fourth paragraphs, the writer makes a statement that opposite with his first statement, about the differences of this year election that takes a new life and urgency because of Super Tuesday. The writer opinion that is contrary to his actual statement indicates that the writer uses turnabout methods of writing introductory paragraphs. So, it can be said that to open this article, the writer use two methods of writing introductory paragraphs, that are relevant quotation and turnabout.

The thesis statement in this article, This year is very different which is stated in fourth paragraph, fulfills the characteristics of thesis statement proposed by Smalley & Ruetten because it is a complete sentence, expresses an opinion and ha one idea toward the topic.

4.1.6. February 8, 2008

• Data 19. Future of Soeharto's children

This article tells about the Soeharto's children life after their father passed away. This article was written by Frans Surdiasis (Jakarta), a

researcher and development staff in The Jakarta Post. This article has 42 paragraphs. The first one paragraph is introduction.

The death of former president Soeharto last month can become a pivotal turning point — negatively or positively — for his six children and their descendants.

In this article, the writer states directly his thesis statement. The sentence in the paragraph above is the thesis statement of this article. This thesis statement is a complete sentence, expresses the opinion of the writer, not a fact, and has one idea of the topic. So, this thesis statement fulfills the characteristics of thesis statement proposed by Smalley & Ruetten.

• **Data 20. New solution needed for Papua**

This article was written by Neles Tebay (Abepura, Papua). He is a lecturer at the Fajar Timur School of Philosophy and Theology in Abepura, Papua. This article contains 31 paragraphs.

The House of representative issued on Jan. 22, 2008 some 21 drafts of bills around the creation of 21 new regions in Indonesia, including the formation of four new provinces in Papua.

The new provinces include South Papua, Central Papua, South West Papua, and West Papua.

In December 2007, the House also issued the drafts of bills on the formations of new regencies, including six new regencies in Papua province.

While respecting the House's right to take the initiative to propose new drafts of bills, the question should be: who is going to benefit from the creation of new four provinces in Papua?

Are the four new provinces created for the sake of the indigenous Papuans?

Is the creation of new provinces to address problems in Papua?

The sentences above are the introductory paragraphs of this article and funnel is the method that is used. The writer opens this article by writing about the drafts of bills of new regions in Indonesia, including the formation of new four provinces and new regencies in Papua. Then the writer writes or

questioned about the usefulness of this new formation of provinces and regencies. This article is about the new formation of provinces and regencies in Papua and its hope and urgency for Papua.

The writer does not write clearly the thesis statement of this article in the introduction. In this article, the writer argues that the formation of four new provinces and six new regencies in Papua do not solve the problems faced by Papuans. In this article, the writer wants to say that the lack of provinces is not the root cause of all these problems.

• **Data 21. U.S. goes from teacher to student**

This article was written by Kenneth Rogoff (Cambridge). He is a professor of Economics and Public Policy at Harvard University, and was formerly chief economist at the IMF. This article consists of 18 paragraphs.

As the United States' epic financial crisis continues to unfold, one can only wish that U.S. policymakers were half as good as listening to advice from developing countries as they are at giving it. Americans don't seem to realize that their "sub-prime" mortgage meltdown has all too much in common with many previous post-1945 banking crises throughout the world.

The introductory paragraph of this article states in the first paragraph. The writer uses funnel as the method of introduction. This article is opened by general statement about financial crisis in United States. Then the writer narrows that general statement by writing his thesis statement about policymakers who are hoped want to be a good listener to advice from another developing country. In the next paragraphs, the writer states again another thesis statement about American people who seem do not realize that the sub-prime mortgage meltdown has all too much in common with many previous post-1945 banking crises throughout the world. So the introductory paragraph

in this article has two thesis statement that are developed or discussed; U.S. policymakers were half as good as listening to advice from developing countries as they are at giving it and Americans don't seem to realize that their "sub-prime" mortgage meltdown has all too much in common with many previous post-1945 banking crisis throughout the world. Smalley and Ruetten (1982:141) state that the thesis statement should express only one idea toward one topic; if a thesis statement contains two or more ideas, the essay runs the risk of lacking unity and coherence. The introductory paragraph of this article has two ideas that are discussed in the whole paragraphs, so this thesis statement does not fulfill the characteristics of thesis statement proposed by Samlley & Ruetten.

- **Data 22. Coping with illegal fishing in Indonesia**

Coping with illegal fishing in Indonesia contains 26 paragraphs. It was written by Indonesian diplomat, Rossy Verona (Jakarta). This article is about illegal fishing in both Indonesia and Philippine. The writer discuss about the common problems in managing territorial waters in Indonesia and Philippine.

The problems of Indonesia fishermen abroad are rarely discussed at a national level and tend to get left behind, since the number of Indonesian fishermen working abroad is somewhat negligible compared to other workers (including housemaids, domestic helpers, plantation workers and drivers).

Like domestic workers, these fishermen have encountered problems and become vulnerable victims as well. Working as crew members in foreign vessels, they must prepare themselves to face the worst situations, to get arrested and charged with illegal fishing.

It would take months or even years to settle such legal processes and in most cases, owners are more concerned about the fate of their vessel and abandon the crew.

In 2005, Indonesia lost about 1.5 million tons of fish due to illegal fishing. Illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing activities in Indonesian waters cause between \$2 and \$3 billion annually in state losses,

but so far only a few foreign vessels have been captured and crews put on trial.

Why Indonesian and the Philippines?

The paragraphs above are the introductory paragraphs of this article, and the method that used is funnel, but there are jumping ideas. This article is opened by the discussion of Indonesian fishermen abroad; about the problems that may encounter by the fishermen. However, in the third paragraph, the writer starts writing about illegal fishing in Indonesia, about the financial loss of Indonesia because of illegal fishing. Furthermore, the writer suddenly writes about Philippine that is never said before in previous paragraphs, because at first, the writer just writes about Indonesian fishermen and illegal fishing in Indonesia, she never say something about Philippine. Because of that, the readers need to read this article thoroughly to know the topic discussed in this article

There is no thesis statement in these introductory paragraphs. The writer just develops her topic about territorial waters in Indonesia and Philippine. So the readers, like what have said before, need to read this article thoroughly to know the topic discussed in this article and. The readers also have to infer the thesis of the whole writing by themselves.

4.1.7. February 9, 2008

- **Data 23. Reduce urbanization**

This article was written by Deden Rukmana (Savannah, GA). He is an assistant professor of urban studies at Savannah State University in the U.S. This article consists of 13 paragraphs, and tells about the flooding that happen annually in Jakarta. Introductory paragraph exists in the first one paragraph.

In February 2007, the worst flooding in Jakarta's history inundated about 70 percent of the city, killed at least 57 people and sent about 450,000 fleeing their homes. Almost exactly a year later, floods hit Jakarta again. This clearly indicates that flooding is an annual event in Jakarta. Fortunately, the extent of this year's flooding was not as great as in 2007.

To open this article, the writer writes general idea about flooding that hit Jakarta in 2007. Then, the writer narrows it down to the specific one, about the flooding that happens again in Jakarta this year. This kind of opening is called funnel, because the writer goes from general statement then limits it by giving specific statement. The thesis statement is This clearly indicates that flooding is an annual event in Jakarta, which fulfills the characteristics of thesis statement proposed by Smalley & Ruetten, because it writes in complete sentence, expresses opinion, and contain only one idea of the topic.

• **Data 24. The politics of bilingual education**

This article was written by chief-editor of Indonesian Journal of English Language Teaching, Setiono Sugiharto (Jakarta). This article has 24 paragraphs and the first five paragraphs are the introductory paragraphs.

The current foreign language teaching landscape is dominated by the creation of bilingualism through schooling.

The increasingly growing number of so-called national plus schools (often purportedly using an international curriculum) is telling evidence the marketization of bilingual schools is enjoying a heyday.

The luring selling point of the program is that proficiency in using English can be gradually developed in a setting where school subjects are taught in English and where English is used as a means of interaction among teachers and peers.

In this particular setting, "the English only policy" is often strictly implemented with the hope that class teachers can successfully take their students to the "promised Land", where fluency in English becomes the ultimate aim.

Despite the exposure to use English in this artificial setting, there seems to be no convincing evidence to claim that nationally bilingual education works effectively.

The writer uses turnabout as a method of introduction. This article is opened by the general topic about bilingual education that is learned in school, about the growing number of people who learn foreign language. Then in the fifth paragraph, the writer states his thesis statement that opposes the first general statement, there seems to be no convincing evidence to claim that nationally bilingual education works effectively. This thesis statement is a complete sentence and does not express a fact, but the writer's opinion. This thesis statement also brings one idea toward the topic. So, this thesis statement fulfills the characteristics of thesis statement proposed by Smalley & Ruetten.

• **Data 25. Southeast Asia's Pakistan problem**

This article was written by a former President of the Philippines, Fidel V. Ramos (Manila). This article contains 14 paragraphs.

Pakistan's near political chaos, the result of President Pervez Musharraf's declaration of martial law last year and the assassination of former Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto, has had a tsunami-like impact across Southeast Asia.

The paragraph above is an introduction of this article which is also the thesis statement of this article. It means that the writer open this article by giving his thesis statement directly in the first paragraph. The thesis statement underlined above, Pakistan's near political chaos is a complete sentence that expresses opinion, not a fact and has only one idea toward one topic. So, this thesis statement fulfills the characteristics of thesis statement proposed by Smalley & Ruetten.

• **Data 26. Universities must produce integrated enterprises**

This article was written by Harus Laksana Guntur (Tokyo), an assistance professor at the Tokyo Institute of Technology, Japan. This article contains 31

paragraphs. This article is about universities in Indonesia that are challenged to produce technological and social innovation just as the other universities in the world have done.

In the global era, universities in Indonesia face two challenges. First, our university has to be able to create business enterprises and second, it has to be able to produce social enterprises.

In an article in (Nature, 2006), entitled University spin-off: Opportunity or Challenge? Xiaogang Peng, a professor at Arkansas University USA said university is not only the center of research activity which produces invention or innovation, but also a center of business incubation.

University has been developing vigorously from a center of research and innovation into a center of business incubation based on technological innovation, and is able to produce spinout companies.

The two paragraphs above are introductory paragraphs of this article using relevant quotation as the method. In the first paragraph, the writer gives the general statement that universities in Indonesia face two challenges today; creating business enterprises and producing social enterprises. In the second paragraph, the writer quotes another person's words, Xiaogang Peng's words supporting the writer's statement. The writer states his statement in the third paragraph; University has been developing vigorously from a center of research and innovation into a center of business incubation based on technological innovation. This thesis statement fulfills all the characteristics of a thesis statement proposed by Smalley & Ruetten; it is expressed in a complete sentence, it expresses an opinion, does not express a fact, and it expresses one idea toward one topic.

- **Data 27. Exorcising the ghosts of 1998 financial crisis**

This article contains 24 paragraphs and was written by Bruce Gale (Singapore). This article is about financial crisis that have happened in

Indonesia in 1998 and is still possible to happen again. This article has just one introductory paragraph.

Two recent developments—largely ignored by the national and international media—suggest that the ghosts of the 1998 financial crisis may still be haunting at least some Indonesian policymakers and private-sector analysts.

In the introductory paragraph above, the writer states directly his thesis statement that two recent developments suggest that financial crisis in Indonesia that happens in 1998 is still possible to happen again. The thesis statement is the ghosts of the 1998 financial crisis may still be haunting at least some Indonesian policymakers and private-sector analysts. This thesis brings one idea that financial crisis in 1998 may still be haunting Indonesian government. So, this thesis statement fulfills the characteristics of thesis statement proposed by Smalley & Ruetten since it is a complete sentence.

4.1.8. February 11, 2008

- **Data 28. The definition of a true hero: Risking their lives for change**

The definition of a true hero: Risking their lives for change was written by journalist, Dennis G. Kloeth. The article that consist of 25 paragraphs, tells about what kind of people who really should be called as a hero.

The democratic yet heated discussion over whether Soeharto should be considered a hero or not is on.

Often, and all too easily, do we use the word hero, and more than often do we use this term in a context that doesn't always justify its use.

The introductory paragraph of this article states in the first two paragraphs above. The writer uses funnel as the method, because the writer opens this article with general topic, democratic issue about whether Soeharto

should be called as hero or not, then the writer narrows it down by giving his thesis statement, that we often use the term hero in a context that does not always justify its use. We use this term in a context that doesn't always justify its use is thesis statement of this article that is written in complete sentence and expresses opinion. So, this thesis statement fulfills the characteristics of thesis statement proposed by Smalley & Ruetten.

- **Data 29. Order, growth and democracy**

Order, growth and democracy tells about democracy during the leadership of Soeharto, that during his reign Indonesia had reached the growth of economy, but lack of democracy; democracy role toward economy. This article was written by G. Adi Kusuma (Blacksburg, VA), a Ph.D candidate, graduate assistant office of capital assets and financial management, Virginia Tech. this article has 45 paragraphs, and first one of them is introductory paragraph.

It has been more than a week since the death of former president Soeharto. His death has stirred controversy in various issues, including his legacy and position in Indonesia's history.

Some condemned his actions and policies during his presidency, especially when those policies are related to human rights and democratic issues.

Yet, his achievements would be romanticized by those who benefited greatly from his economic developments and the national stability and order.

Even several world leaders praised his ability to bring stability and growth to the region. And the former President is not alone.

Let's take Vladimir Putin as another example. The Russian president was recently named *Time* Magazine's Person of the Year for his success in bringing Russian out from disarray into order in his short time as the country's leader.

This happened despite the fact even *Time* recognizes how his leadership style, the Russian support him overwhelmingly. His approval rating never dropped below 70 percent.

Thus, the keywords seems to be order, stability and economic achievement, rather than democratic achievement.

Indonesian's democratic experiment is not working well. This only shows there is no "one size fits all" jacket, even in a democracy itself.

Those paragraphs above are the introductions of this article. This article is about democracy growth in Indonesia during the presidency of Soeharto. To open this article, the writer discusses first about the various controversy stirred by Soeharto after his death, including in his legacy and position in Indonesia's history. In the fifth paragraph, the writer then discusses the leadership style of Russian's president who was successful in bringing Russia into a better and stable country. The writer starts to focus in the ninth paragraph, which the writer starts to talk about the unstable growing of Indonesia's democracy. This kind of opening that used by the writer is called funnel, because the writer gives general view before goes with his thesis statement.

The thesis statement is Indonesian's democratic experiment is not working well which states in the ninth paragraph. This thesis statement brings one idea that democracy does not grow well enough in Indonesia. This thesis statement is also expressed in a complete sentence and expresses an opinion not a fact. So, this thesis statement fulfills the characteristics of thesis statement proposed by Smalley & Ruetten.

• **Data 30. Ali Imron's book: What does it tell us?**

This article was written by Noor Huda Ismail (Jakarta), the director of an Institute for International Peace Building. It tells about the book that is written by Ali Imron, Bali bomber. First two paragraphs of 21 paragraphs are the introductory paragraphs.

Ali Imron, a member of Jama'ah Islamiyah (JI) and one of the main actors in the first Bali bombing has recently releases a book titled Ali Imron Sang Pengebom (Ali Imron, The Bomber). Sitting crossed legged

on a simple black plastic matters in Jakarta police detention cell, this gregarious man told me in a recent interview that the book was his main tool by which he would reach out to his former recruits and those of his fellow jihadists who are still active in the group: “I don’t want to see any bombings like the one in Bali happen again” he said candidly. “Enough is enough.”

The book is testimony to Ali Imron’s repentance, and there are at least for significant lessons that may be drawn from it, particularly for Muslim leader and the government in devising effective initiatives by which to oppose the jihadist ideology, JI’s ideas and propaganda. If left unchecked, both will continue to harvest sympathy, transforming it into logistical support and potentially even generating a new pool of recruits to jihad.

To open this article, the writer uses funnel method. The writer firstly writes about the released of Ali Imron’s book. In the next paragraph, the writer gives his statement that this book is testimony of Ali Imron’s repentance, and it is also the thesis statement of this article. This thesis statement, The book is testimony to Ali Imron’s repentance, is a complete sentence, expresses opinion and has just one idea of the topic. So, this thesis statement fulfills the characteristics of thesis statement proposed by Smalley & Ruetten.

• **Data 31. Breaking the neoclassical monopoly in economics.**

This article was written by Thomas I. Palley, Chief Economist with the U.S.-China Economic and Security Review Commission and is the author of Post-Keynesian Economics. This article consists of 18 paragraphs.

For the 25 years, the so-called “Washington Consensus” – comprising measures aimed at expanding the role of markets and constraining the role of the state – has dominated economic development policy. As John Williamson, who coined the term, put it in 2002, these measures “are motherhood and apple pie, which is why they commanded a consensus.”

Not anymore. Dani Rodrik, a renewed Harvard University economist, is the latest to challenge the intellectual foundations of the Washington Consensus in a powerful new book titled One Economic, Many Recipes: Globalization, Institutions, and Economic Growth. Rodrik’s thesis is that though there is only one economics, there are many recipes for development success.

Two paragraphs above are the thesis statements of **Breaking the neoclassical monopoly in economics**. The method used is turnabout, because the writer opens this article by the discussion about Washington Consensus that has nominated economic development policy that was coined by John Williamson in 2002. Then in the next paragraph the writer turns to the thesis of Dani Rodrik that has opposed statement from what is written in the first paragraph, that there are several ways for development success. This article does not have thesis statement because the writer does not state exactly his statement. This article is about the contrary between Washington Consensus and Rodrik statement. In this article the writer just tells that he agrees with Rodrik statement that Williamson.

4.1.9. February 12, 2008

- **Data 32. Whose supper is it anyway?**

The article that contains 19 paragraphs was written by Elizabeth Chandra (Tokyo), a lecturer at the International Center, Keio University, Tokyo. This article is about the reaction of Christian toward the illustration in Tempo magazine that depicted Soeharto with his children in the manner of Leonardo da Vinci's The Last Supper. The first two paragraphs are the introductory paragraphs.

Soeharto is gone, but the long-time tyrant continues to bring about discontent in Indonesia.

The cover of the Feb. 4-10 issue of Tempo magazine depicted the recently deceased Soeharto and his children in the manner of Leonardo da Vinci's The Last Supper, and naturally provoked plenty of gripes from Christian organizations.

The first two paragraphs above are the introductory paragraphs of this article. The writer states directly his thesis statement in the first paragraph

that, although the former president Soeharto has gone, his tyrant still continues to bring discontent in Indonesia. This kind of opening is called turnabout method, because the writer states his statement that opposes the first statement. In the second paragraph, the writer starts focus to her discussion by giving explanation on her discussion in detail. He discuss about Christians' gripes toward Tempo cover that depicted Soeharto and his family in the manner of Leonardo da Vinci's The Last Supper that explain the discontent by long-time tyrant of Soeharto presidency.

The thesis statement is the long-time tyrant continues to bring about discontent in Indonesia. This thesis statement fulfills the characteristics of thesis statement proposed by Smalley & Ruetten, because it is a complete sentence, expresses opinion, and brings one idea.

- **Data 33. Is Europe's housing market next?**

This article was written by Daniel Gros. He is Director of the Center of European Policy Studies in Brussels. This article consists of 12 paragraphs, and the first two of them is the introductory paragraph.

Bubble in the American housing market – fueled in part by so-called “sub-prime” mortgages – was the catalyst for today's financial market turbulence. But the bubble was not confined to the United States. In Europe, house prices have also increased sharply over the last decade – more dramatically than in the U.S. in many cases. The sane is true of other OECD countries and emerging markets, where rapidly increasing incomes have put pressure on asset prices.

Indeed, with a few exceptions (essentially Germany and Japan), housing prices have risen almost everywhere to levels never seen before. How could such a global pattern emerge when real estate is the most local of all assets?

This article uses turnabout method in introduction. The writer opens this article by writing about bubble in the American housing market that cause

today's financial market turbulence. Then, in the next sentence, the writer state the oppose statement that housing market also increases in Europe and the other countries.

The thesis statement of this article appears in the form of question, How could such a global pattern emerge when real estate is the most local of all assets? This thesis statement does not fulfill the characteristics of thesis statement proposed by Smalley & Ruetten, because statement should not be written in the question form.

• **Data 34. Considering McCain's strengths**

This article was written by Tom Plate (Los Angeles). He is the professor of UCLA University and just completed the third reprinting of his latest book, Confession of an American Media Man. This article contains 13 paragraphs and tells about the strengths that maybe have by McCain.

One of my all-time favorite Chinese proverbs goes like this: "to listen well is as powerful a means to influence as to talk well, and it is essential to all true conversations."

This ancient adage has often popped into my head these past seven years in the bumpy, unhappy presidency of George W. Bush. These have been years of anything but "stop, look and listen," but rather, especially during his first four years, more an age of "go forward, blindly, with earplugs firmly in place."

John McCain now is one of the last two white men standing at the top of the greatly diminished Republican field to succeed Bush in January. The rapid withdrawal of former Massachusetts Gov. Mitt Romney leaves little more than Arkansas Gov. Mike Huckabee in the Arizona senator's way. This should not prove too daunting a hurdle.

Three paragraphs above are the introductory paragraphs of this article that uses relevant quotation as the method. This article is opened by giving the quotation of Chinese proverb, "to listen well is as powerful a means to influence as to talk well, and it is essential to all true conversations." Then in

the next, the writer relates that proverb with the happening situation during the leadership of Bush. In the third paragraph, the writer be specific, the writer starts telling about one of the president candidate, McCain.

This should not prove too daunting a hurdle is the thesis statement of these introductory paragraphs which fulfills all the characteristics of thesis statement proposed by Smalley & Ruetten; it is expressed in a complete sentence, it expresses an opinion, does not expresses a fact, and brings only one idea toward the topic.

• **Data 35. Future philosophy vs culture of inclusion (Part I)**

This article was taken from S. Takdir Alisjahbana's unpublished paper, presented for the International Conference on other in Discourse: the Rhetoric and Politics of Exclusion May 6-9, 1993 in Toronto, Canada organized by Victoria University. This article has two pars. Part one presented in The Jakarta post, February 12, 2008 and consists of 16 paragraphs. The second part was presented in The Jakarta Post, February 13, 2008 which does not have introductory paragraphs. **Future philosophy vs culture of inclusion (Part II)** is the continuing article of part I so this article is opened directly by development paragraphs.

In the course of evolution we discern the development of three levels of existence:

First the level of the organic which is subject to the laws of physics, mechanics and chemistry.

Secondly, the level of the organic or biological which is characterized by a process of growth and continuous self-rejuvenation.

Thirdly, with the appearance of man, in the course of evolution, through the human mind and spirit, we arrive at the cultural level created by the special make-up of the human mind and spirit.

It is clear that in this conference we are especially concern with the last level, i.e. the cultural level which is the result of the human individual as well as human behavior. What is the characteristic of this cultural level?

Through his mind and spirit – in contrast to the level of the organic, and especially to the biological level which processes take place on the basis of drives and instincts – the human being has become more independent and creative so that he is able to change nature and create new entities which had not existed before in nature.

This article has five introductory paragraphs that uses funnel method.

The writer opens this article by mention three levels that is concerned with development. He writes the level one by one in the next three paragraphs.

Then, in the fifth paragraph, the writer starts to focus just to the third level, evolution through human mind and spirit. This article does not state the thesis statement exactly. This article discusses the appearance of man, about human mind and spirit. The underline sentence above implies the topic that will be developed in the whole article. So the readers need read deeply to know what the main point that wants to tell by writer is.

• **Data 36. Being Chinese is a personal decision and choice**

This article was written by Jennie S. Bev (San Francisco). She is a columnist and a social commentator, and also known as the motivator and inspirator of the JiangZhe Sianghainese Indonesian Young Leaders Fraternity. This article contains 15 paragraphs. The first two paragraphs are the introductory paragraphs

A recent statement by Abdurrahman “Gusdur” Wahid, a much respected, loved and admired leading ulema and a former president of Indonesia, who said he is a descendent of princess Champa, whose son Tan Eng Hwan was known by his given Indonesian aristocrat name Raden Fatah, is a breath of fresh air for all people of Chinese descent in Indonesia, and those who believe in a multicultural society.

For once, a strong and charismatic religious leader of the majority has unabashedly and courageously broken the silence by being openly pluralistic and multiculturalistic. Gusdur has set an example that being ethnic Chinese is not something to be embarrassed about nor to be feared; instead, it is to be acknowledged wholeheartedly.

This article uses funnel as the method of introduction. This article is opened by writing about Gusdur statement about his descendent that gives a fresh air for Indonesian people who is born as Chinese descends and people who believe in multicultural society. In the second paragraph the writer starts go to her thesis that being ethnic Chinese is something that has to be proud of.

The thesis statement is being ethnic Chinese is not something to be embarrassed about nor to be feared; instead, it is to be acknowledged wholeheartedly. This thesis statement fulfills the characteristics of thesis statement proposed by Smalley & Ruetten, because it is expressed in a complete sentence, expresses an opinion and brings one idea of the topic (being ethnic Chinese has to be acknowledged wholeheartedly).

4.1.10. February 13, 2008

• Data 37. Apology to aborigines

This article was written by a journalist, Dewi Anggraeni (Melbourne).

The article entitle **Apology to aborigines** contains 21 paragraphs, and the first 5 paragraphs are the introductory paragraphs.

Something historically significant will happen in Australian Federal Parliament in Canberra on Wednesday, Feb. 13, 2008: an official apology is finally being delivered to Australian's Aboriginal community, for the past policy which leads to the "stolen generation".

The enormous human dimension of the "stolen generation", it seems, only became an issue and touched the consciousness and the hearts of Australian's white and other non-indigenous population, in 1997, when the National Inquiry into Separation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Children from their Families Published its report titled, Bringing Them Home.

The period covered by the report is from 1910 to 1970, more than a half of century. More importantly, the report jolted the present generation of Australians into realizing that the practice continued into their own lifetimes.

No one, after reading Bringing Them Home, reported having dry eyes.

All this sounds horrible and extreme. However, we are repeatedly reminded, especially by those opposed to the federal government's apology, that the policy was "well-intentioned".

This paragraph is opened by general topic about official apology to the Australian's Aborigines. Then the writer describes the cause of this historical significant event, she writes about events that happened to the aborigines before this official apology happen. Then in the fifth paragraph, the writer states his thesis statement that the policy was a good intentioned. This kind of opening is called the dramatic entrance because the writer opens the article by describing the causes since this article analyzes the effect. The thesis statement is the policy was "well-intentioned" which fulfills the characteristics of thesis statement proposed by Smalley & Ruetten, because it is a complete sentence and expresses an idea.

- **Data 38. What is so special about New Year?**

The article entitles **What is so special about New Year?** Contains 10 paragraphs and was written by Hong Liang (Beijing). This article tells about the special things of Chinese New Year.

Having been brought up in Hong Kong, I never felt anything too special about Chinese New Year. When I was a kid, the only thing I look forward to was the extra pocket money I got from the hong bao, or red envelopes. To get that, I had to follow my parents on a tiring trek to visit relatives living in different areas in the city. What I bore.

The last time I went home for the occasion was in 2003, and I chose to fly on Chinese New Year's day to avoid the crowd. The ticketing agent kept asking if I'd want to fly home a day earlier so that I could have New Year's Eve dinner with my family. She looked a little aghast when I told her that was not important.

But the pictures of tens of thousands of migrant workers stranded at the railway station of Guangzhou, Shanghai and Beijing during the snowstorm woke me up, much like the ghost of Christmas Present in Charles Dickens' immortal novel, and showed me Chinese New Year is not all humbug.

Three paragraphs above are the introductory paragraphs of this article that uses turnabout as a method. The writer opens this article by telling his experience or feeling about Chinese New Year, that according to him Chinese New Year does not have special meaning for him. Then, in the second paragraph, the writer states the statement that opposes his first statement; Chinese New Year is not all humbug.

The thesis statement is Chinese New Year is not all humbug, it fulfills the characteristics of thesis statement proposed by Smalley & Ruetten, because it writes in complete sentence and expresses the writer opinion that brings one idea.

4.1.11. February 14, 2008

- **Data 39. Honesty becomes a rare commodity when corruption is unrestrained**

The article entitles **Honesty becomes a rare commodity when corruption is unrestrained** tell about the truly honesty is. This article was written by Mochtar Buchori (Jakarta) who holds a PhD in education from Harvard University. This article contains 21 paragraphs.

“Being Honest is not enough. In addition, you also need to be smart. And don’t ever be naive in your effort to live honestly. You will become a victim of your honesty.”

That was advice I received many years ago from an uncle in-law.

“Look at our teachers. They have been trying to live honestly, thinking or pretending that education and school life are the same as they used to be,” he added.

Teachers are captives of their tradition, he said. Business people are different. They realize things have changed, and that they need to adjust to the new situation to survive. They regard ‘smartness’ as the most important characteristic in their life. Honesty comes second. Teachers look at life the other way around. Honesty comes first, and smartness comes a distant second.

I was dumbfounded when I heard this advice. Is honesty really such a complicated matter? I become more confused on hearing the next illustration/

“Just imagine the following situation; there are three people with different combinations of honesty and smartness. The first is honest and naïve, the second honest and smart, and the third dishonest and smart. Which one do you think will fare best in society? My bet is the dishonest but smart one. The honest and smart will come second, and the honest but naïve will come last.”

At the time I was a young college teacher, and this uncle was an established businessman, still at the height of his career. I lived very modestly, trying to save every penny to buy books that I considered important for my academic life. This uncle lived a very luxurious life. So, who was I not to believe him, or disagree with him?

Those paragraphs above are the introductions of this article. This article is opened by quoting the writer’s uncle who said that today, being honest and naïve is not enough, but smart should be combined with honest. This quotation relates to the writer topic which discuss about honesty in this global era. This kind of opening is called relevant quotation since the writer quotes another people word which relate with the writer topic will develop. The thesis statement states in the fifth paragraph which is in the question form, Is honesty really such a complicated matter?. This thesis statement does not fulfill the characteristics of thesis statement proposed by Smalley & Ruetten because, according to them thesis statement should not be written in question word.

• **Data 40. Right to life should come first**

This article was written by Bobby Ramakant (Calcutta). He is working as Asian Correspondent and a member of the Network for Accountability (NATT) and the National Alliance of People’s Movement (NAPM). This article contains 15 paragraphs. The first two paragraphs are the introductions.

Actor Shah Rukh Khan’s explanation of his right to “creative liberties” to justify portrayal of tobacco use in Indian cinema has sparked a huge

row, with Union health minister Anbumani Ramadoss appealing to film-stars to refrain for using tobacco on screen and also at public places.

Tobacco is reported to kill more than a million people in India alone every year. It is a well-known cause of life-threatening ailments. It has also been proven in many studies that most of the tobacco use begins before the age of 18.

This article is opened by funnel method, where the writer opens it with discussion about Shah Rukh Khan's explanation on his right about using tobacco in cinema. In the next sentence, the sentence is more focus to the writer thesis about refrain for using tobacco on screen and public places. This article does not have clear thesis statement. The underlined sentence above at least gives the reader view that this article is about the decreasing in using tobacco on cinema.

4.2. Discussion

After obtaining the data and analyzing them based on their kinds, in this section the whole data are discussed to answer the problem proposed in previous chapter.

The topics discussed are introductory paragraphs in article of newspaper that is an authentic material. Introductory paragraph places an important part in essay. Then, about the thesis statement, which states in the introductory paragraphs, which will be developed in development paragraphs and also the main point of the whole paragraph.

The way or method that is used by the writer in introductions will determine the interesting of the whole article, whether the reader will enjoy read the next paragraphs or not. This paragraph needs skills to write it well, but it also often brings most trouble. The thesis statement is also important in writing because it is the main point of the entire paragraph that will be developed then.

The question about what kinds of methods used in introductory paragraphs is discussed by using Smalley & Ruetten theory, that there are four basic types that usually used: turnabout, dramatic entrance, relevant quotation, and funnel.

After analyzing the data, the researcher found that nearly all the writers use the method of writing introductory paragraphs in writing their introductory paragraphs. The result of the analysis shows that the method of writing introductory paragraphs mostly used in selected article is funnel. Funnel is type of introductory paragraph that the ideas progresses from the general to the specific just as a funnel is wide at the top and narrow at the bottom. This introduction is opened with a general statement about the topic and then to work toward be more specific thesis statement (Smalley & Ruetten, 1982:143). The articles are: Data 3. Fighting graft a global public good, Data 4. Stagflation and the business cycle, Data 6. Does tempeh have politics? Data 7. The death of President Soeharto (Part 1), Data 10. Rising China and the implications for SE Asia, Data 11. The fowl and inconvenient truth, Data 13. Soeharto's 30-year iron rule, Data 14. Alpine schadenfreude and the U.S. economy, Data 15. Looking at the unfolding America election, Data 16. Economist are optimists, Data 20. New solution needed for Papua, Data 21. U.S. goes from teacher to student, Data 22. Coping with illegal fishing in Indonesia, Data 23. Reduce urbanization, Data 28. The definition of a true hero: Risking their lives for change, Data 29. Order, growth and democracy, Data 30. Ali Imron's book: What does it tell us?, Data 35. Future philosophy vs culture of inclusion (Part I), Data 36. Being Chinese is a personal decision and choice, Data 40. Right to life should come first.

Turnabout method of introduction opens with a few sentences summarizing a point of view that is actually the opposite of the writer's own the thesis. In other words, in the turn about the writer sets up the opponent's view to attack (Smalley & Ruetten, 1982: 228). The articles that use turnabout introduction of the articles analyzed are: Data 1. Living in a world where flash beats substance, Data 8. The possibility of indicting Soeharto after his death, Data 12. The global impacts of bird flu, Data 24. The politics of bilingual education, Data 31. Breaking the neoclassical monopoly in economics, Data 32. Whose supper is it anyway?, Data 33. Is Europe's housing market next?, Data 38. What is so special about New Year?

An essay with relevant quotation type of introduction opens with a quotation by an authority on the topic or by someone else who says something relevant to what is discussed in the essay. The writers usually will also begins with a famous quotation and then work that into their topic (Smalley & Ruetten, 1982:299). The articles that use relevant quotation method of writing introductory paragraphs are: Data 5. Some practical problems in stolen asset recovery, Data 9. Why Indonesian people are losing interest in democracy: Data 26. Universities must produce integrated enterprises, Data 34. Considering McCain's strengths, Data 39. Honesty becomes a rare commodity when corruption is unrestrained.

Dramatic entrance is a kind of introduction that opens with a narrative, description, dramatic examples pertinent to the topic and serves the purpose of a dramatic or humorous opening that will generate interest in the reader (Smalley & Ruetten, 1982:259). Data 2. The forgotten Ahmadiyah women, Data 17. I am a

Chinese-Indonesia, and Data 37. Apology to aborigin are the articles analyzed that used dramatic entrance method of writing introductory paragraphs.

However, the researcher also found that from the articles analyzed, there are also articles which do not use method of writing introductory paragraph; instead the writer states directly the thesis statement in the first paragraph. The articles are: Another 3 articles do not use method of introduction because they state directly the thesis statement in the first paragraph or in the introductory paragraph, they are: Data 19. Future of Soeharto's children, Data 25. Southeast Asia's Pakistan problem, Data 27. Exorcising the ghosts of 1998 financial crisis. There are also article which uses two methods of writing introductory paragraphs—relevant quotation and turnabout—that is Data 18. What Americans expects from 'Super Tuesday'.

The last research question is to identify the thesis statement which is stated by the writer in introductory paragraph. The analyses of thesis statement is according to the characteristic of thesis statement proposed by Smalley & Ruetten; the thesis statement should be expressed in a complete sentence, expresses an opinion, attitude, or idea; express an opinion not fact, and it should express only one idea toward one topic.

From all the articles analyzed, the researcher found that almost all the writers state their thesis statement clearly in their introductory paragraphs, and these clear thesis statements fulfill the characteristics of thesis statement proposed by Smalley & Ruetten. They are: Data 1. Living in a world where flash beats substance, Data 3. Fighting graft a global public good, Data 4. Stagflation and the business cycle, Data 5. Some practical problems in stolen asset recovery, Data 6.

Does tempeh have politics? Data 7. The death of President Soeharto (Part 1), Data 8. The possibility of indicting Soeharto after his death, Data 9. Why Indonesian people are losing interest in democracy, Data 10. Rising China and the implications for SE Asia, Data 12. The global impacts of bird flu, Data 13. Soeharto's 30-year iron rule, Data 14. Alpine schadenfreude and the U.S. economy, Data 16. Economist are optimists, Data 18. What Americans expects from 'Super Tuesday', Data 19. Future of Soeharto's children, 23. Reduce urbanization, Data 24. The politics of bilingual education, Data 25. Southeast Asia's Pakistan problem, Data 26. Universities must produce integrated enterprises, Data 27. Exorcising the ghosts of 1998 financial crisis, Data 28. The definition of a true hero: Risking their lives for change, Data 29. Order, growth and democracy, Data 30. Ali Imron's book: What does it tell us?, Data 32. Whose supper is it anyway? Data 34. Considering McCain's strengths, Data 36. Being Chinese is a personal decision and choice, Data 37. Apology to aborigines, Data 38. What is so special about New Year?

Whereas, here the articles which have thesis statement that do not fulfill the characteristics of thesis statement proposed by Smalley & Ruetten: Data 2. The forgotten Ahmadiyah women (the thesis statement does not writt in complete sentence), Data 11. The fowl and inconvenient truth (the thesis statement is written in question form), Data 33. Is Europe's housing market next? (the thesis statement is written in question form), Data 39. Honesty becomes a rare commodity when corruption is unrestrained (the thesis statement is written in question form); and the articles which do not have clear thesis statement: Data 11. The fowl and inconvenient truth, Data 15. Looking at the unfolding America

election, Data 17. I am a Chinese-Indonesia, Data 20. New solution needed for Papua, Data 22. Coping with illegal fishing in Indonesia, Data 31. Breaking the neoclassical monopoly in economics, Data 35. Future philosophy vs culture of inclusion (Part I), Data 40. Right to life should come first.

The researcher also found that there is an article in which the writer states two ideas toward one topic develop in the article, that is Data 21. U.S. goes from teacher to student.

The following is the table of methods of writing introductory paragraphs and the thesis statement which has been analyzed.

No	Title of the article	Method of writing Introductory paragraphs	Thesis statement
1	Living in a world where flash beats substance	Turnabout	it is hard to buy into such a conspiracy theory
2	The forgotten Ahmadiyah women	Dramatic entrance	has encouraged me to presents another side of the Ahmadiyah
3	Fighting graft a global public good	Funnel	Good governance is a global public good that requires collective action
4	Stagflation and the business cycle	Funnel	The worry should be whether this presage a return of “stagflation” or what might be called an inflationary depression
5	Some practical problems in stolen asset recovery	Relevant quotation	Indonesia’s previous experience in this regard is not encouraging
6	Does tempeh have politics?	Funnel	The rising price of tempe is of course not separated from other things.
7	The death of President Soeharto (Part I)	Funnel	President Soeharto, by his judgment, goodwill and good sense, had the greatest positive impact on Australia’s strategic environment and, hence, on its history
8	The possibility of indicting Soeharto	Turnabout	more than one million people who have lost loved ones are waiting

	after his death		anxiously for the news that he — even after his death — will be held accountable for his alleged crimes against humanity
9	Why Indonesian people are losing interest in democracy	Relevant quotation	In Indonesia, the falling interest in democracy is at least in the air
10	Rising China and the implications for SE Asia	Funnel	This modernization has elevated China's profile at both the regional and global levels
11	The fowl and inconvenient truth	Funnel	So, what has gone wrong with the ongoing public awareness campaigns and policies and strategies developed by the authorities?
12	The global impacts of bird flu	Turnabout	Today, a contagious disease in one country can quickly pass to many others
13	Soeharto's 30-year iron rule	Funnel	it is fair to ask what the factors behind his violent rule were.
14	Alpine schadenfreude and the U.S. economy	Funnel	these "masters of the universe" seemed less omniscient than they did a short while ago
15	Looking at the unfolding America election	Funnel	The thesis statement does not state clearly
16	Economist are optimists	Funnel	Economists have reputation for being pessimistic
17	I am a Chinese-Indonesia	Dramatic entrance	The thesis statement does not state clearly
18	What Americans expects from 'Super Tuesday'	Use 2 methods; Relevant quotation and Turn about	This year is very different.
19	Future of Soeharto's children	States directly the thesis statement	The death of former president Soeharto last month can become a pivotal turning point — negatively or positively — for his six children and their descendants
20	New solution needed for Papua	Funnel	The thesis statement does not state clearly
21	U.S. goes from teacher to student	Funnel	-U.S. policymakers were half as good as listening to advice from developing countries as they are at giving it. AND -Americans don't seem to realize that their "sub-prime" mortgage

			meltdown has all too much in common with many previous post-1945 banking crisis throughout the world.
22	Coping with illegal fishing in Indonesia	Funnel	The thesis statement does not state clearly
23	Reduce urbanization	Funnel	This clearly indicates that flooding is an annual event in Jakarta
24	The politics of bilingual education	Turnabout	there seems to be no convincing evidence to claim that nationally bilingual education works effectively
25	Southeast Asia's Pakistan problem	States directly the thesis statement	Pakistan's near political chaos
26	Universities must produce integrated enterprises	Relevant quotation	University has been developing vigorously from a center of research and innovation into a center of business incubation based on technological innovation
27	Exorcising the ghosts of 1998 financial crisis	States directly the thesis statement	the ghosts of the 1998 financial crisis may still be haunting at least some Indonesian policymakers and private-sector analysts
28	The definition of a true hero: Risking their lives for change	Funnel	we use this term in a context that doesn't always justify its use
29	Order, growth and democracy	Funnel	Indonesian's democratic experiment is not working well
30	Ali Imron's book: What does it tell us?	Funnel	The book is testimony to Ali Imron's repentance
31	Breaking the neoclassical monopoly in economics	Turnabout	The thesis statement does not state clearly
32	Whose supper is it anyway?	Turnabout	the long-time tyrant continues to bring about discontent in Indonesia
33	Is Europe's housing market next?	Turnabout	How could such a global pattern emerge when real estate is the most local of all assets?
34	Considering McCain's strengths	Relevant quotation	This should not prove too daunting a hurdle

35	Future philosophy vs culture of inclusion (Part I)	Funnel	The thesis statement does not state clearly
36	Being Chinese is a personal decision and choice	Funnel	being ethnic Chinese is not something to be embarrassed about nor to be feared; instead, it is to be acknowledged wholeheartedly.
37	Apology to aborigines	Dramatic entrance	the policy was “well-intentioned
38	What is so special about New Year?	Turnabout	Chinese New Year is not all humbug
39	Honesty becomes a rare commodity when corruption is unrestrained	Relevant quotation	Is honesty really such a complicated matter?
40	Right to life should come first	funnel	The thesis statement does not state clearly



CHAPTER V

CONCLUSION

Based on the finding and discussion, the conclusion and suggestion of research is as the following.

5.1. Conclusion

Based on the research questions in chapter 1, the following conclusion is described dealing with the introductory paragraphs on articles of Jakarta Post.

As has stated in the previous chapter, introductory paragraph is a paragraph that begins the writing or essay writing and where the main point of the whole essay is stated. And because of the important of introductory paragraph, writers usually use number of strategies to make a good introductory paragraph and to grab the reader's attention to read the following paragraphs. According to Smalley & Ruetten, there are four basic type of introduction: Turnabout, Dramatic Entrance, Relevant Quotation, and funnel.

Based on the finding and discussion in the previous chapter, nearly all the writers use the method of writing introductory paragraphs in writing their introductory paragraphs. The result of the analysis shows that the method of writing introductory paragraphs mostly used in selected article is funnel. However, there are also articles which do not use method of writing introductory paragraph; instead the writer states directly the thesis statement in the first paragraph. There is also an article in which the writer combines two methods of writing introductory paragraphs in opening the article.

In addition, almost all introductory paragraphs in articles analyzed have thesis statement that fulfills the characteristic of thesis statement proposed by Smalley & Ruetten, whereas some of them do not have thesis statement that fulfills the characteristic of thesis statement proposed by Smalley & Ruetten or do not have clear thesis statement. In one of the articles analyzed, there is the writer who states two thesis statements that develops in the whole essay.

To sum up, almost all the articles use methods of writing introductory paragraphs and nearly all the introductory paragraphs of articles analyzed have clear thesis statement that fulfills the characteristic of thesis statement proposed by Smalley & Ruetten.

5.2. Suggestion

After analyzing the introductory paragraphs of on English articles in opinion column of Jakarta Post, the suggestions are stated toward the next character, people who concern on writing article, the writing lectures, and the writing and reading students:

5.2.1. To the next researcher

Based on the result of this research in the analysis of introductory paragraphs, the suggestion is that this research can be discuss from other topic by the next researcher, for instance using the other object of study or using other kinds of methods of writing introductory paragraphs.

5.2.2. To people who concern on writing article

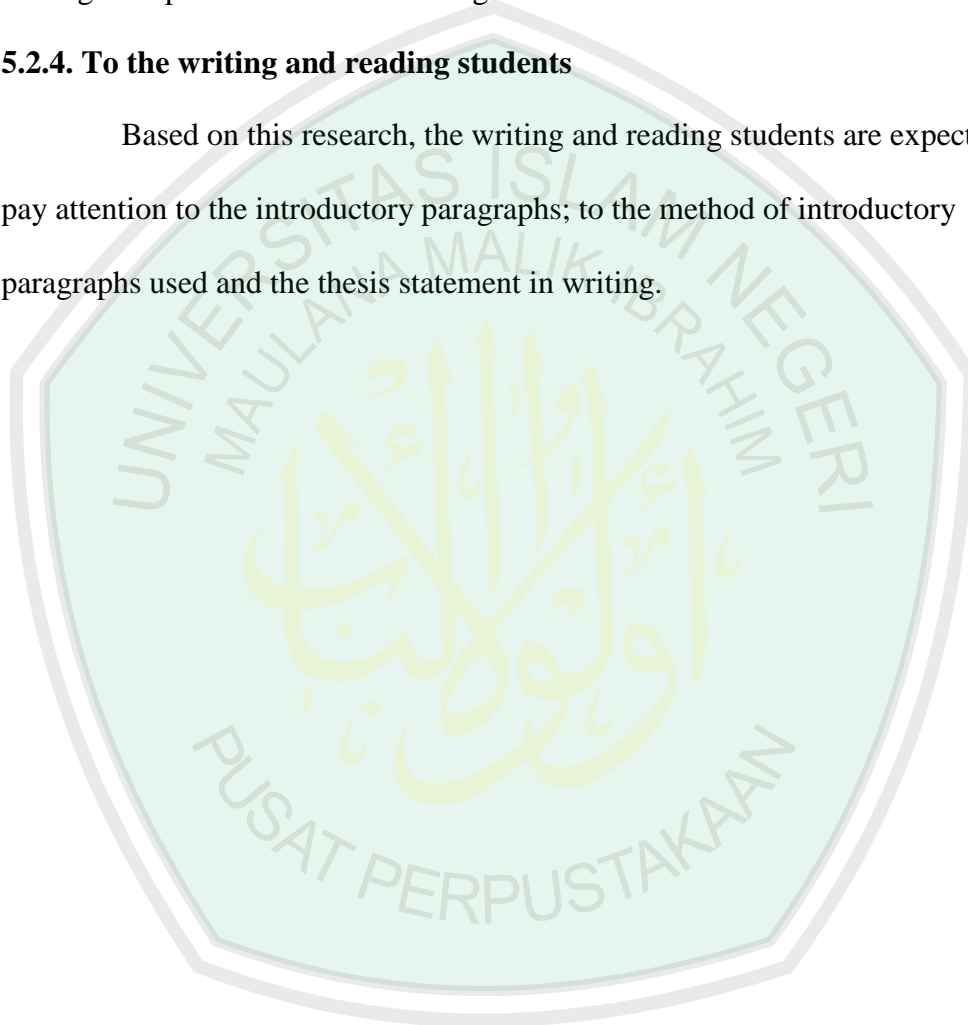
It is expected that they who concern on writing article in newspaper to pay more attention to the using of proper strategy of introductions that can grab the readers attention.

5.2.3. To the writing lectures

The researcher expects that the writing lectures should give the material about writing essay composition especially the methods of introductory paragraphs since it places the important part of the writing. It occurs because writing is important to draw the thought into written text.

5.2.4. To the writing and reading students

Based on this research, the writing and reading students are expected to pay attention to the introductory paragraphs; to the method of introductory paragraphs used and the thesis statement in writing.



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Dosen Pembimbing : Drs. H. Djoko Susanto, M. Ed. Ph. D

No	Tanggal	Materi	TTD
1	10 Maret 2008	Pengajuan Judul	1.
2	02 April 2008	ACC Proposal	2.
3	11 April 2008	Seminar Proposal	3.
4	09 Mei 2008	Konsultasi Bab I	4.
5	23 Mei 2008	Revisi Bab I	5.
6	13 Juni 2008	Konsultasi Bab II	6.
7	27 Juni 2008	Revisi Bab II	7.
8	11 Juli 2008	Konsultasi Bab III	8.
9	25 Juli 2008	Revisi Bab III	9.
10	07 September 2008	Konsultasi Bab IV	10.
11	10 September 2008	Revisi Bab IV	11.
12	12 September 2008	Konsultasi Bab V	12.
13	18 September 2008	Acc Keseluruhan	13.

Malang, 18 September 2008
Mengetahui,

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