



# **Comparison and Contrast**

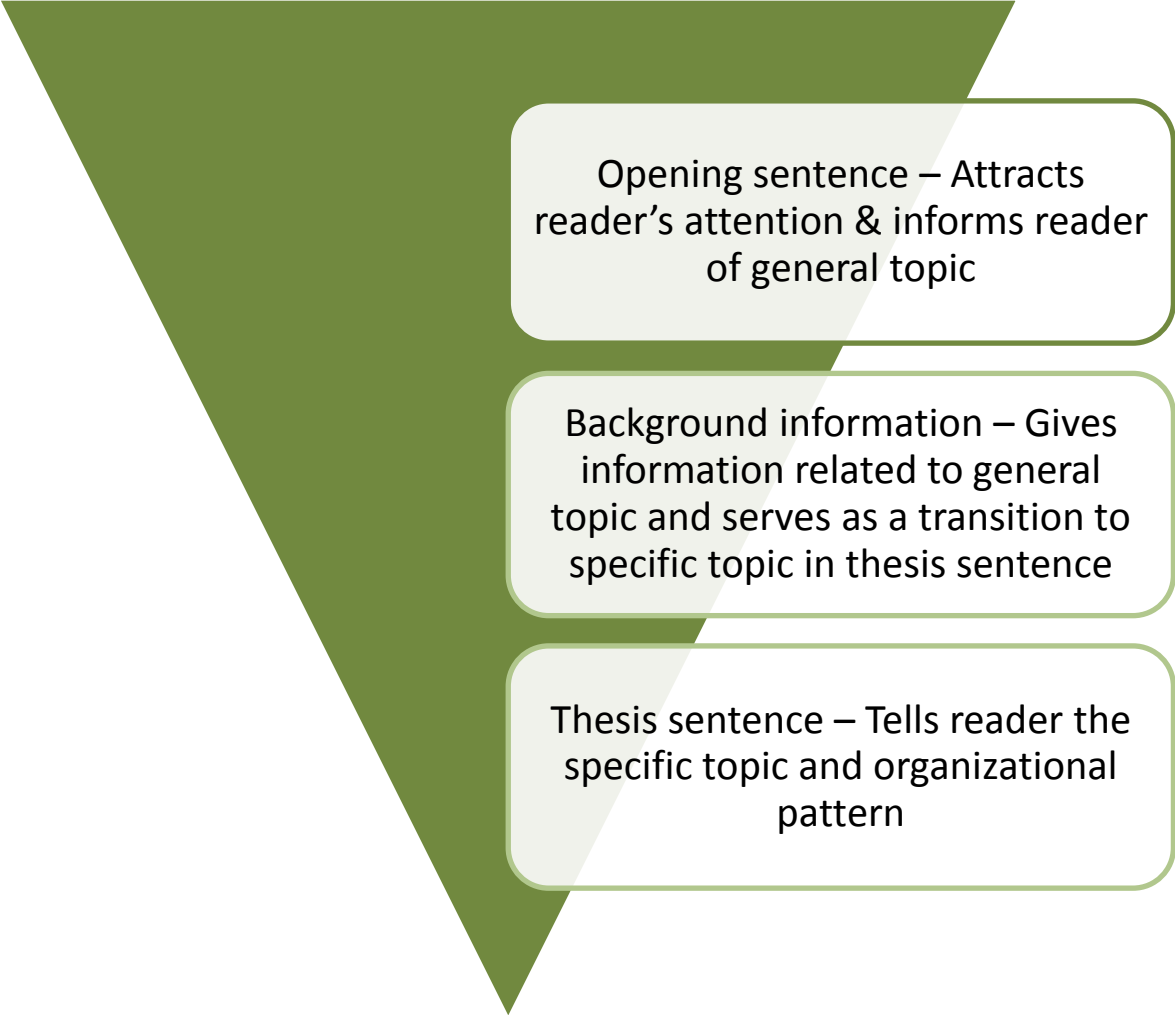
## **Introductions**

# Purpose

- Attract the reader's attention
- Imply an organizational structure
- Include the thesis (specific idea) of the essay



# An overview



Opening sentence – Attracts reader's attention & informs reader of general topic

Background information – Gives information related to general topic and serves as a transition to specific topic in thesis sentence

Thesis sentence – Tells reader the specific topic and organizational pattern

# An overview (cont.)

**Opening sentence:** A journey into prehistoric times is only as far away as the local zoo.

**Background information:** Here, visitors can see alligators and crocodiles, relics of the dinosaur age. The alligator family includes the caiman, and the crocodile family includes the gaviel; they are found in many parts of the world.

**Thesis sentence:** Alligators and crocodiles are strong, agile creatures that have striking similarities, yet they also have differences.

# Opening sentences

- ❖ Quotation
- ❖ Scenario/anecdote – hypothetical or real examples illustrating the topic
- ❖ Inquiry/question – thought provoking, maybe even edgy, questions capturing the reader's attention
- ❖ Preparatory definition/explanation – definition or explanation of the subject

# Quotation

In the 1950s, it was not uncommon to hear a teenager, as he prepared to leave, call out, “ See you later, alligator.” In turn, his friends would reply, “After a while, crocodile.” While it is impossible to travel back to the early days of rock and roll, one can journey back prehistoric times by taking a trip to the local zoo. Here, visitors can see alligators and crocodiles, relics of the dinosaur age. The alligator family includes the caiman, and the crocodile family includes the gaviel; they are found in many parts of the world. Alligators and crocodiles are strong, agile creatures that have striking similarities, yet they also have differences.

# Scenario/anecdote

It started off as a simple transfer operation to move a crocodile from one pen to another. However, that is not how it went. As Steve Irwin prepared to lift Tula over the fence, the bag that had been covering her head fell to the ground, leaving her head exposed. Zoo goers gasped as the 8-foot reptile sank her teeth into Irwin's leg. It was a tense few moments before Tula's powerful jaws could be pried open to free Irwin. According to Irwin, this was just a typical day at Australia Zoo. Here, visitors can see crocodiles and alligators, relics of the dinosaur age. The crocodile family includes the gavia, and the alligator family includes the caiman. Both species are found in many parts of the world. Crocodiles and alligators are strong, agile creatures that have striking similarities, yet they also have differences.

# Inquiry/question

**Could time travel be possible at the nearest zoo?** For many zoo goers it is. Here, visitors can see alligators and crocodiles, relics of the dinosaur age. The alligator family includes the caiman, and the crocodile family includes the gaviel. The two species are found in many parts of the world. Alligators and crocodiles are strong, agile creatures that have striking similarities, yet they also have differences.



# Preparatory definition/explanation

***Crocodylia*** is an order of large reptiles which appeared approximately 83.5 million years ago during the late Cretaceous period. At today's zoos, visitors can see alligators and crocodiles, relics of the late Cretaceous period. The alligator family includes the caiman, and the crocodile family includes the gaviel. The two species are found in many parts of the world. Alligators and crocodiles are strong, agile creatures that have striking similarities, yet they also have differences.