



**Process**

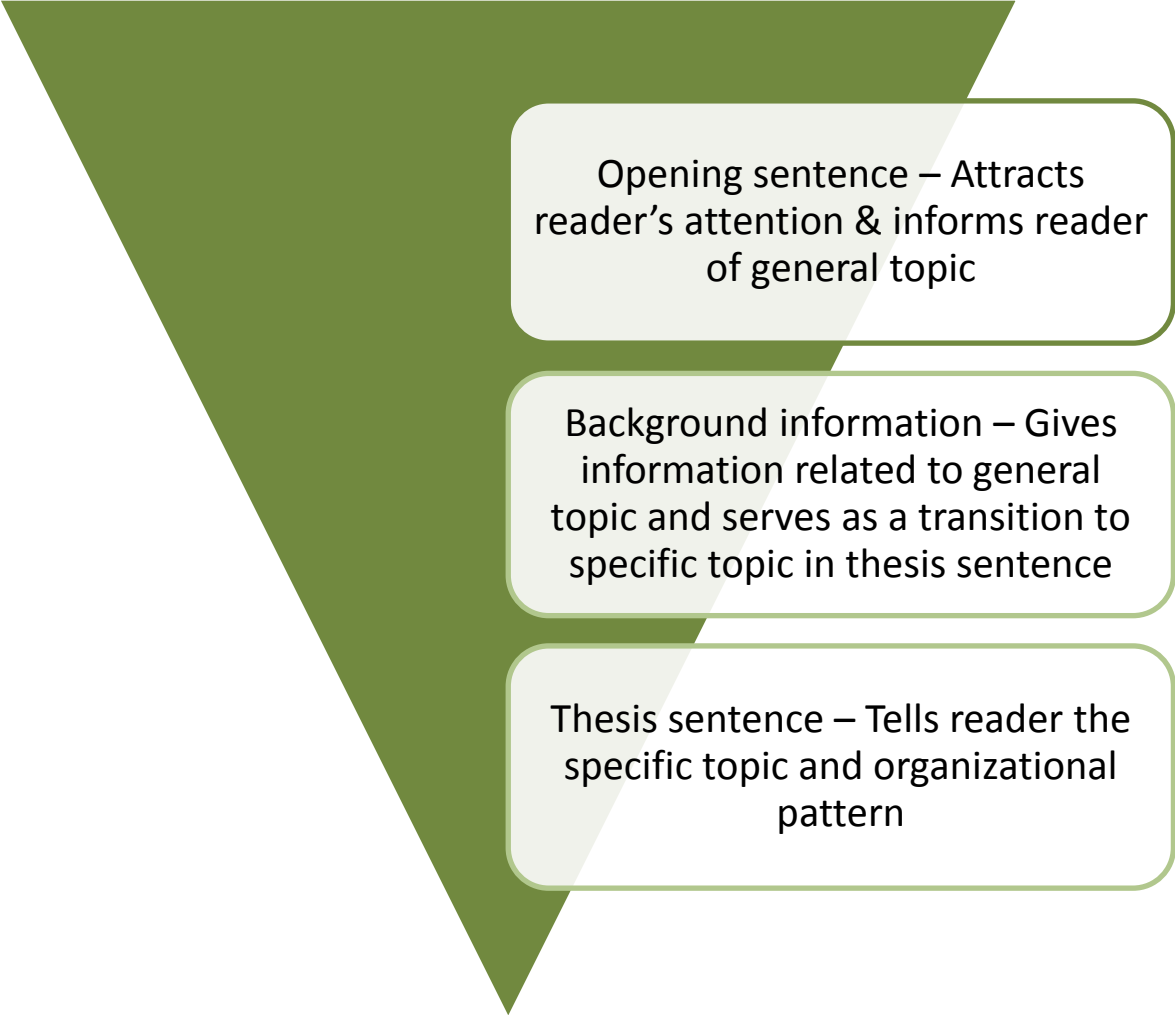
**Introductions**

# 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:** Author Linda Grayson (n.d.) writes, “There is nothing better than a friend, unless it is a friend with chocolate.”

**Background information:** Historian Amanda Fiegl (2008) reports that this international sweet sensation has a long history that can be traced back to the people of Mesoamerica . . . Since then, it has become one of the most favorite flavors for cakes.

**Thesis sentence:** Baking this popular cake involves four easy steps.

# 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

**Author Linda Grayson (n.d.) writes, “There is nothing better than a friend, unless it is a friend with chocolate.”** Historian Amanda Fiegl (2008) reports that this international sweet sensation has a long history that can be traced back to the peoples of Mesoamerica. They originally drank it as a bitter beverage. It was not until the Spanish arrived on the scene in the 16<sup>th</sup> century that the word chocolate became synonymous with “sweet.” After a group of Dominican friars took a gift of chocolate to Prince Philip of Spain, chocolate went on to become a European obsession for the upper classes. However, it was not until the Industrial Revolution that it was available to the general public. Since then, it has become one of the most favorite flavors for cakes. Baking this popular cake involves four easy steps.

# Scenario/anecdote

- **John was alone on his 22nd birthday ... one of the worst birthdays he had ever had. He did not have a lot of friends here at college and his family lives far away. He invited a few acquaintances over to eat dinner and help him celebrate so he would not be physically alone. He also baked his own birthday cake. When he told one of his classmates this a couple of days after the fact, she commented that it was very sad for him to have to make his own birthday cake. He disagreed because he reported that his friends had been impressed with the chocolate cake he baked. He also stated that his friends devoured every last crumb of the cake. Baking a cake based on John's recipe involves four easy steps.**

# Inquiry/question

**Can a little brown bean teleport you back to 25 BC?** If it is a cacao bean, it may. Whenever you drink a cup of cocoa, you are enjoying a beverage that can be traced back to the peoples of Mesoamerica. They originally drank it as a bitter beverage. It was not until the Spanish arrived on the scene in the 16<sup>th</sup> century that the word chocolate became synonymous with “sweet.” After a group of Dominican friars took a gift of chocolate to Prince Philip of Spain, chocolate went on to become a European obsession for the upper classes. However, it was not until the Industrial Revolution that it was available to the general public. Since then, it has become one of the most favorite flavors for cakes. Baking this popular cake involves four easy steps.



# Preparatory definition/explanation

The generic name of cocoa is derived from the Greek words θεός (*theos*), meaning "god," and βρῶμα (*broma*), meaning "food". It translates to "food of the gods." *Theobroma cacao*, the most well known species of the genus, is used for making chocolate. The chocolate product is widely used in baking cakes. Baking a chocolate cake involves four easy steps.