

SAMPLE INTRODUCTIONS

Intro Sample #1: Note the use of an anecdote (also a quotation) as the lead for this intro.

Children Torn Apart

Malnutrition Destroying India's Youth

“Lying on the bed is a tiny malnourished child. Her limbs wasted, her stomach bloated, her hair thinning and falling out. Her name is Roshni. She stares, wide-eyed, blankly at the ceiling. Roshni is six months old and she should weigh 4.5kg. But when she is placed on a set of scales, they settle at just 2.9 kilograms. There are 40 beds in this centre. On every one is a similar child, and all are acutely malnourished; wailing, painful, and plaintive cries fill the air.” (Malnutrition Getting Worse in India)

Every day, thousands and thousands of innocent children, like Roshni, die on the streets due to malnutrition (USA Today). India, being the second most populous country, has now also become the second largest country for child malnutrition rates in the world, having over 45% of its children suffering from malnutrition (International Food Policy Research Institute). With an infant mortality rate of about thirty percent in India (CIA World Factbook), over a third of those deaths are caused by malnutrition alone (Mother and Child Nutrition). Child malnutrition has become an increasing problem in India, caused by a variety of reasons such as corruption in food distribution and lack of money and education. The effects of malnutrition on children are very dreadful, as it will dramatically impact their opportunities to a decent education and a well paid job (Saini). Although, this sounds like a very difficult issue to resolve, there is definitely a way to eradicate child malnutrition from India. All it requires is a bit more work from the government and from the people (Malnutrition Rampant May Trigger Crisis). To better understand the solutions of this problem, we must first be aware of all the causes and the effects of child malnutrition today; only then can we work together and eradicate this issue from India.

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Comment [1]: Effective introduction and nice bridge to the background information

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Comment [2]: There is very limited background knowledge here. Perhaps some information about the science of malnutrition, or information about how malnutrition is part of a larger picture of poverty would be helpful.

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Comment [3]: The writer has laid out the problem, causes, effects, and solutions here.

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Comment [4]: The writer repeats the same ideas with less detail that were noted in comment 2. One or the other is not necessary.

Intro Sample #2: Note the use of “news” as the lead. Also note the way the background info orients the reader, and the way the thesis statement is phrased.

The Forgotten Children
Child Sex Workers in India

Hannah or Vaneet, Peter or Sanju. One could be American, the other Indian. Different but united. They are all children that have been forced into prostitution. Their lives are endangered and their futures bleak. Today, in the twenty first century, 10 million children are trafficked for prostitution all over the globe, and 1.2 million are in India (Kristof). Their names will never be remembered. Their faces will soon be forgotten. Sold, stolen or born into the business of prostitution these young sex workers sell their bodies for money. They may have entered sex work as a means of survival, but ultimately the monetary gain is not for the young prostitutes. They are just sex objects, slaves to a cruel rich pimp (Cullen- Du Pont 94). Extreme poverty, client sex preferences and lack of education are the major causes of child prostitution. This leads them to dismal futures. In order to give Indian children the right to a childhood free from sexually transmitted diseases and emotional damage, law enforcement and widespread educational campaigns against child trafficking for prostitution, coupled with the creation of better work opportunities constitute the solution for future generations.

Intro Sample #3: Note the use of a quotation as the lead for this intro.

The HIV/AIDS Epidemic in India

“The global HIV/AIDS epidemic is an unprecedented crisis that requires an unprecedented response. In particular it requires solidarity -- between the healthy and the sick, between rich and poor, and above all, between richer and poorer nations. We have 30 million orphans already. How many more do we have to get, to wake up?”

-Kofi Annan (Quotes For fighting AIDS)

This quote by Kofi Annan (the 7th UN Secretary-General), explains the importance of recognizing the HIV/AIDS crisis that different countries currently are facing. India is one of the key countries that suffer from HIV/AIDS and it needs local, national, and global support. Estimates from 2006 created by the National AIDS Control Organization, UNAIDS and WHO show that the national adult HIV prevalence in India is about 0.36%, which reflects the estimated 2 million to 3.1 million living with HIV in India (Disease/infection News). Additionally, there is a big difference between the HIV prevalence rates in Indian states. States with high HIV prevalence such as Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra, and Karnataka, Manipur and Nagaland have experienced a decrease in HIV prevalence (HIV prevalence down in high-risk states, but up in low-risk ones). However states like Delhi, Bihar and West Bengal have experienced an increase in HIV prevalence (HIV prevalence down in high-risk states, but up in low-risk ones). The HIV prevalence data is primarily collected by testing pregnant women in antenatal clinics. Thus, to acquire an understanding of the problem of HIV prevalence in India, the causes, the effects and the potential solutions need to be considered since the problem of HIV prevalence is one of the biggest problems that India is facing.

Intro Sample #4: Note the use of an anecdote as the lead for this intro and the use of statistics to provide detailed background information.

The Illiterate Girl

A look into one of India's major setbacks

Imagine being a fourteen-year old Indian girl living in the capital of India—New Delhi. You are on your way home from some errands and look up at a huge billboard and see the face of a movie star smiling at you. As you look up in admiration you hope that one day you could be like that movie star. Then it dawns on you that you can not even read the writing on the billboard let alone ever be a movie star. One of India's major problems is the low level of female literacy in the country. In 2001, there was only 65.6% of the female population that was literate (World Bank). In the years of 2005-2006 only 66.4% of females aged six-seventeen years attended school (National Family Health Survey 33). Females even in this day and age do not have an education and are not literate. According to World Bank, only 83.07 percent of women were literate in 2006. Females in the India of the 21st century are still not being encouraged to go to school and become literate. Illiteracy can result in many problems at home in the family and in the country as a whole. In order to fully understand this critical and essential situation in India, it is important to see what is causing the illiteracy, the effects of it and what could be done to solve this problem, because this is growing to be a dilemma at a larger scale.