

# 4. REVISIT YOUR THESIS

- After you've found all your evidence for your 3 points, arrange them in order of weakest to strongest argumentative power
- Rearrange the points in your thesis if you have to

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Thesis = Argument + 3 points

<i>Not meeting expectations</i>	Scout learns many lessons in <i>To Kill a Mockingbird</i> .
<i>Bare minimum</i>	Scout learns about tolerance, perspective, and racism
<i>Better</i>	Scout learns valuable lessons about tolerance, perspective, and racism, which help her understand people.
<i>Outstanding</i> <i>(Answers the “so what?”)</i>	Scout and her brother Jem learn valuable lessons about tolerance, perspective, and racism, which eventually help them understand the people around them and the choices they make.

# 5. INTRODUCTION

- 3 parts to an introductory paragraph:

Hook	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Capture the reader's attention</li></ul>
Background Info	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Book title in <i>italics</i></li><li>• Author</li><li>• SHORT summary (pick out the parts that are important to your thesis)</li><li>• Specify/define your topic (e.g. define "courage" or "empathy" or "mockingbird")</li></ul>
Thesis Statement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Argument + 3 characters</li></ul>

# 5. INTRODUCTION

- See “Seven Snappy Starters” for hook ideas
  - Start with a question
  - Start with a definition
  - Start with a general quotation (from the book or elsewhere)
  - Start with an anecdote



# 5. INTRODUCTION

## Hook

## Background info

## Thesis statement (last sentence!)

When most people are asked where they learn things, the typical response is school. There are however other places people gather knowledge and skills. For example, where do we learn to ride a bike? How do we know that lying is wrong? These things are modeled and taught by parents, mentors, and even strangers. In Harper Lee's novel *To Kill a Mockingbird*, the narrator Scout details two years of events that took place during her childhood, in her hometown of Maycomb. **It is through these events that Scout and her brother Jem learn valuable lessons about tolerance, perspective, and racism, which eventually help them understand the people around them and the choices they make.**



# 6. CONCLUSION

- **Three parts of a conclusion:**

<b>Restate the thesis</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Remind your reader of your argument, but put it in different words than before (don't repeat word for word)</li></ul>
<b>Summarize</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Briefly mention your main points</li></ul>
<b>Close</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Close with some sort of interesting or insightful thought. Go back to the "so what?" Why does this essay matter?</li></ul>

## 7. PUT IT ALL TOGETHER—WRITE!

- Use your completed outline to start writing your essay!
- Remember to include transition words between ideas and between paragraphs.

## 8. EDIT AND WRITE THE GOOD COPY

- Revise your writing and proofread!
- Type the good copy (library time Tuesday and Thursday next week)