
STEP 1. INTRODUCTION. What's an article?

An article is usually written for a magazine or newspaper. The main purpose is to engage the reader, so the opening paragraph should catch your reader's interest. Attracting the reader's attention can be done in a number of ways (refer to handout "The writing process "Part 2).

An article is usually factual and includes some comment, recommendation or opinion. It can be formal or informal depending on the target audience. Remind them, this is academic writing, so they cannot use contractions, abbreviations, or colloquial language.

An article consists of the following parts:

- **Opening.** It is the general presentation of the topic.
- **Body** (two or more paragraphs). The first paragraph should contain the strongest argument or example. The second paragraph the second strongest argument and the third the weakest.

A paragraph consists of several sentences about a certain topic. It has the following parts:

- A topic sentence, i.e. an idea.
- One or several supporting sentences to expand on the idea.
- A concluding sentence.
- **Conclusion.** It is the paragraph that summarizes the main idea or presents a conclusion, depending on the kind of essay you need to write. Some things to bear in mind:
 - It should not bring new ideas.
 - It shouldn't be very long.
 - It can be similar to the opening, but presented in different words.

