

The Peace of Wild Things Formative Assessment 5

I can draft an introductory paragraph using what I have learned about strong introductions.

Directions: To draft your introduction for your reflective essay, you will choose to respond to **ONE** of the following writing prompts.

We have been studying about the lessons and feelings that may come from the natural world.

You will write an essay in which you:

1. Reflect upon the kinds of lessons that nature may teach us
- OR**
2. Reflect upon the types of feelings that may come from experiences in nature

To develop your essay, you will use good text evidence from at least two texts, AND you will use your own personal experience.

Remember what you have learned about effective introductions:

- Effective introductions often **open with a hook**, a means of grabbing readers' attention. Hooks may include:
 - 1) a relevant quotation from a trustworthy source
 - 2) a significant or startling fact or statistic
 - 3) a relevant anecdote (a personal experience or an experience from someone else)
- Good writers should be able to **transition logically** from their hook to their thesis statement.
- Strong thesis statements offer a **direct and clear response to the writing prompt**.
- Strong thesis statements are **precise, limited, unified, and valuable**. That is, they use language that says exactly what it means. They also offer a limited, rather than a general, focus for the essay. Strong theses provide a single direction for the essay. Finally, they offer readers a valuable insight, one that results from close reading and careful thinking.

1. Use the prompt you have selected to draft an effective thesis statement.
2. Then consider an effective hook to open your introductory paragraph.
3. Draft your introductory paragraph.