

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.

1. There are writers who have learned much from the natural world. Write an essay in which you use at least two of these writers and their texts, as well as your own experience, to develop this idea.
2. There are writers who have looked to nature as a great source of joy, strength, and peace. Write an essay in which you use at least two of these writers and their texts, as well as your own experience, to develop this idea.
3. There are those who advocate for wilderness preservation and those who advocate for wilderness development. Write an essay in which you use at least two writers and their texts, as well as your own experience, to develop the claim that preserving our wilderness is necessary.

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 notable source
 - 2) a significant or startling fact or statistic
 - 3) a relevant anecdote (personal or other)
- 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, specific, unified, and valuable**. That is, they use language that says exactly what it means. They also offer a specific, 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.