

Fiction Introduction Checklist



1. Establishing the Setting and Mood

- ✓ Where and in what time period is the novel set?
- ✓ Does your introduction give readers a strong sense of this setting?
- ✓ Is it clear what the general mood of the story is? (Is it dark? Mysterious? Romantic?)
- ✓ What details did you use in your introduction to convey this mood?

2. Indicating the Narrator

- ✓ Who is the narrator in your novel? Is it one of the characters? Or are you using a third-person omniscient or third-person limited narrator?
- ✓ What kind of tone does your narrator adopt?
- ✓ Does your narrator's voice effectively draw in the reader?

3. Introducing the Characters

- ✓ Have you introduced at least one of your main characters in the introduction?
- ✓ How does your introduction make that character memorable?

4. Showing or Foreshadowing the Main Conflict

- ✓ Does your introduction hint at the novel's main conflict?
- ✓ Is the conflict "juicy" enough to make readers want to read on?
- ✓ Does your introduction give the readers a sense of how the conflict will affect the main character(s)?

5. Exhibiting or Hinting at the Main Themes

- ✓ Can the readers attain an overview of the novel's potential themes through your introduction?
- ✓ Does the introduction effectively use the literary elements of setting, plot, conflict, and foreshadowing to establish the main themes of the novel?

6. Hooking the Reader

- ✓ Does the introduction leave readers with the question: "What happens next?"