

Checklist for an Introduction to a research paper

	Keep it short
	Apply a general to specific pattern
	Include five parts: background, unknown, purpose, approach, closing
	Use language to signal the five parts (see the academic phrasebank)
	Cite the key literature (not a complete literature review)
	Eliminate overview sentences (that don't contribute to the meaning)
	Write for a range of disciplinary readers, not for examiners!
	Check journal guidelines
	Signal the importance of the topic
	Use negative (standard) phraseology to signal the gap (the unknown)