

A! Appendix 4

“Opening” Sentences (Move 1-1)

One of the most challenging tasks in any new form of communication is learning how to **begin** and **end** your text. It is for this reason that most of the “**beginnings**” and “**endings**” in the communication between humans consists of **conventional routines**. For example, letters typically begin with “Dear X” and end with “Sincerely”, “Best regards”, or “Best wishes.” Learning the conventions for beginning and ending academic texts will enable you to not only communicate more effectively but also to sound more like a member of your research community.

Introducing the wider context

As a “new-comer,” or novice, you may not immediately recognize these conventional patterns, since this requires much time and repeated exposure to texts in your field before you will begin to recognize them. In engineering texts, one conventional structure for beginning the introduction is to describe the **wider context** of your topic area by making a **claim** about its **importance**, **relevance** or **current situation**. These strategies for creating the opening sentences in the Introduction of your text can typically take one of two forms:

[Time span] + *pres. Perfect* + **[adverb]** + **[reason]/[purpose]**



Over the last decade, the telecommunication industry **has** experienced an enormous increase in need for transmission bandwidth

Recently, interpolation methods **have been** used for designing FIR filters using uniformly or nonuniformly spaced frequency samples [1]-[7], [19].

[Time span] + *pres. Perfect* + **[adjective]** + **[reason]/[definition]**



Recent years have seen a rich variety of approaches to long-wavelength vertical-cavity surface-emitting lasers (VCSELs) [1]–[9].

The last decade has witnessed a marked increase on the deployment of end-user equipment that is highly sensitive.

In addition, experienced writers in fields of engineering typically use four other **conventional sentence patterns** as the first “opening” sentence in the Introduction (See Appendix 3) to stress the *popularity, importance* or *relevance* of the wider topic [Move 1-1].

<p>1. {TIME} [TOPIC] has [VERB -ed] [INTENSIFIER] + attention + [REASON]</p> <p>In the recent decade, chitosan has received much attention because of its extraordinary properties and for its inexpensive abundant resources.</p>
<p>2. {TIME} [TOPIC] has [VERB -ed] + [INTENSIFIER] + interest in [FIELD] [REASON]</p> <p>The use of natural fibers as reinforcement for thermoplastics has generated much interest due to their low cost, possibility of environmental protection and use.</p>
<p>3. {TIME} [TOPIC] + has emerged as a(n) + [INTENSIFIER] [SUPERORDINATE] [PURPOSE]</p> <p>In recent years, amorphous solid dispersion has emerged as an effective approach for enhancing drug solubility (Alonzo et al., 2011, Konno et al., 2008 and Newman et al., 2012).</p>
<p>4. {TIME} [TOPIC] + has been the focus of + [INTENSIFIER] [RESEARCH ACTIVITY]</p> <p>Ethanol production from lignocellulose has been the focus of intense research for several decades.</p>

1. {TIME} [TOPIC] has [VERB -ed] [INTENSIFIER] + attention + [REASON]

[TOPIC] has	<p>received</p> <p>attracted</p> <p>gained</p> <p>drawn</p> <p>garnered</p>	<p>considerable [39%]</p> <p>much [35%]</p> <p>increasing [9%]</p> <p>great [6%]</p> <p>increased [3%]</p> <p>extensive [2.6%]</p> <p>wide [2.5%]</p> <p>growing [1%]</p> <p>substantial [1%]</p>	attention	<p>over the last several decades</p> <p>in recent years</p> <p>due to...</p> <p>since / as / because ...</p> <p>in [research area]</p>
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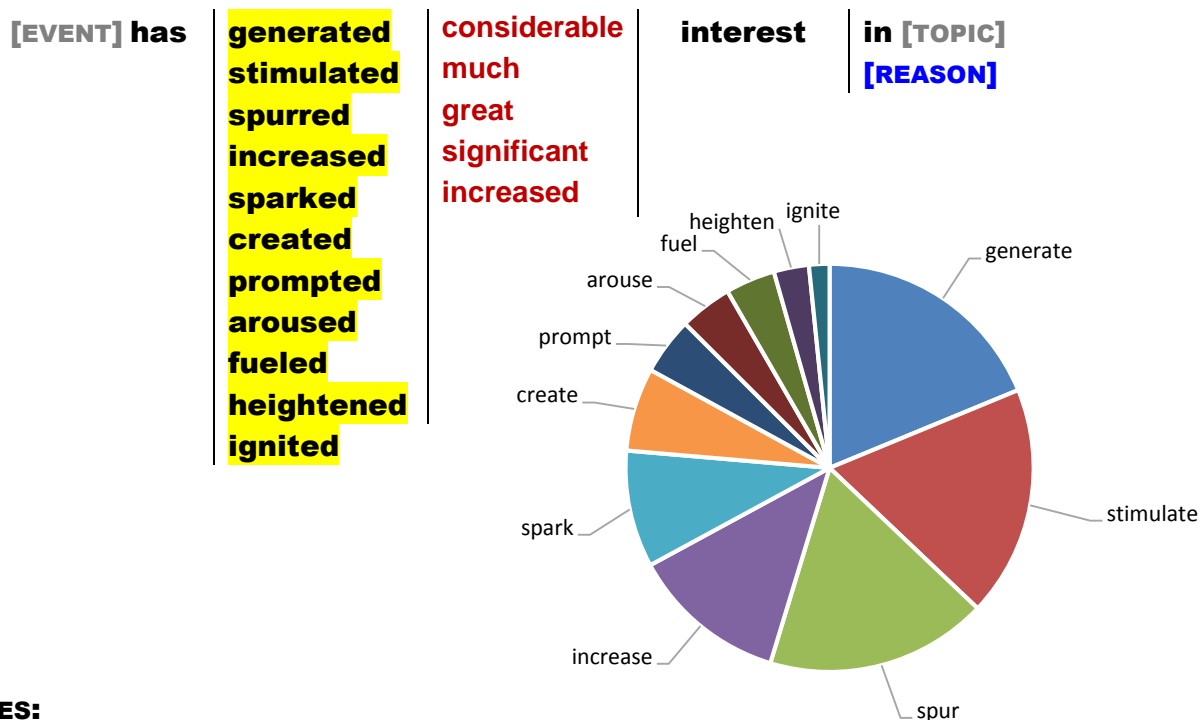
EXAMPLES:

The problem of observing the states of a system, some of whose inputs are not available for measurement, **has received considerable attention** in the literature [1]-[3].

Polymer–metal nanoparticle composites **have attracted much attention** in recent years due to increased interest concerning their application in opto-electronics.

Recently, the dispersion of reinforcing nanoparticles into a continuous polymer phase to form a nanocomposite **has gained a great deal of attention,** **since** it can ...

2. {TIME} [EVENT] has [VERB -ED] + [INTENSIFIER] interest in [TOPIC]



EXAMPLES:

Galactofuranose has attracted considerable interest in the last two decades due to its presence in various microorganisms.

The use of chitosan for the encapsulation of active components has gained interest in the last years due to its mucous adhesiveness, non-toxicity, biocompatibility and biodegradability.

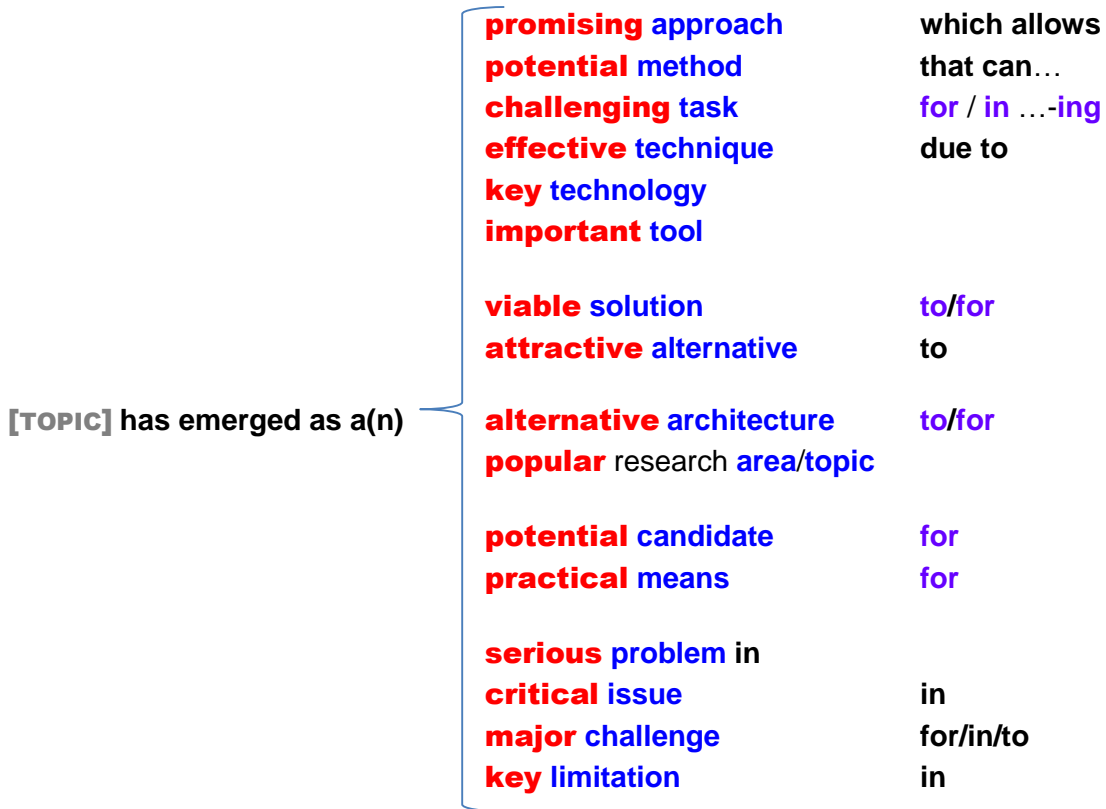
In recent years, visual analysis of human behavior has generated CONSIDERABLE interest in the field of computer vision because it has a wide spectrum of potential applications, such as smart surveillance [5], human computer interfaces [18], content-based retrieval [12], and virtual reality [21].

In the last decade, the development of efficient, high power diodes and new laser materials has generated CONSIDERABLE interest in diode pumped solid state lasers.

Public concern about the environment has stimulated interest in biodegradable polymers as alternatives to conventional polymers (Ke & Sun, 2000).

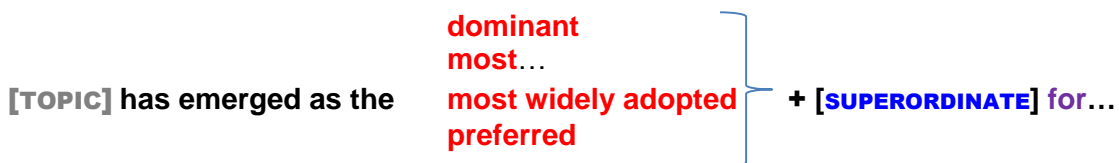
The role of membrane glycoconjugates in a variety of pharmacologically relevant recognition phenomena has stimulated interest in the synthesis and biological evaluation of analogues of carbohydrates, generally defined as glycomimetics.

3. {TIME} [TOPIC] + has emerged as a(n) + [INTENSIFIER] [SUPER] [PURPOSE]



[TOPIC] has emerged as the + [SUPERORDINATE] of choice for...

[TOPIC] has emerged as the de facto standard for...



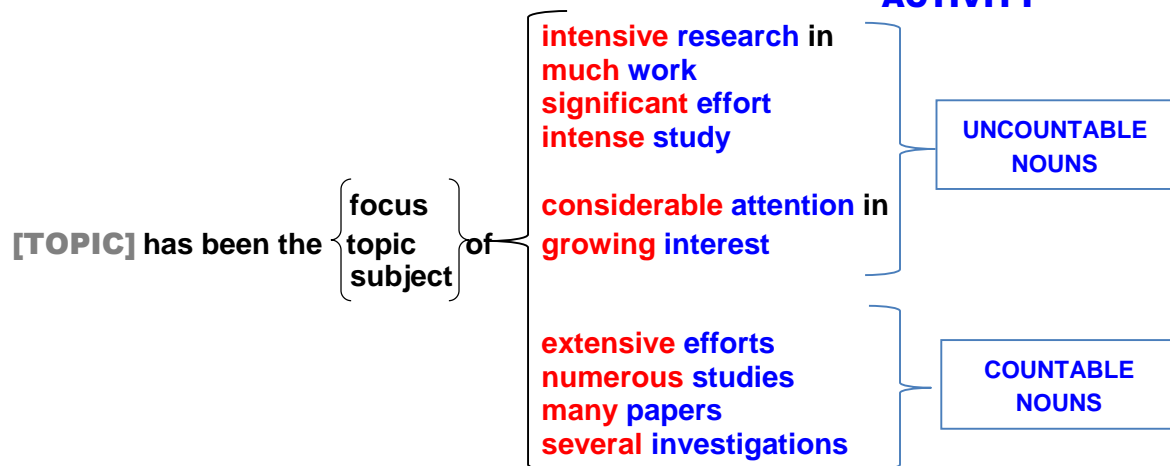
EXAMPLES:

Carboxymethyl chitosan, a water soluble derivative of chitosan, with enhanced biological and physicochemical properties compared to chitosan, **has emerged as a promising candidate for** different biomedical applications.

Recently, Lignocellulosic bioethanol (LCB) **has emerged as an environment friendly and sustainable renewable fuel** (Alvira, Tomás-Pejó, Ballesteros, & Negro, 2010).

Nano-scale cellulose **has emerged as a green reinforcement for** the design of nanocomposites **due to** its outstanding mechanical properties (Gindl and Keckes, 2005, Grunert and Winter, 2002, Klemm et al., 2006).

4. [TOPIC] + has been the focus of + [INTENSIFIER] [RESEARCH] ACTIVITY



EXAMPLES:

Since its introduction, the LMS algorithm **has been the focus of much study** due to its simplicity and robustness, leading to its implementation in many applications.

The physics of swimming and flying **has been the focus of considerable** theoretical, numerical, and experimental **work**.

Understanding the dynamics and control of congestion in the Internet **has been the focus of intense research in recent years**.