Lesson 1:

Introduction Worksheets for IELTS Writing Task -2

1. Write a sentence introducing the topic and giving some background facts (background statement) about it

2. Tell the reader what you are going to be writing about (Thesis statement)

How you do this will vary depending on the question, but here is an example:

____________________________________________

Example 1:

Problems and solutions:

The percentage of overweight children in western society has increased by almost 20% in the last ten years.

Discuss the reasons and suggest some solutions to this disturbing trend.

Sample answer:

Over the last ten years, Western societies have seen close to a 20% rise in the number of children who are overweight. There are various reasons why this has occurred and examine the consequences of this worrying trend.

____________________________________________

As you can see, the first sentence is the background statement

The second sentence is the thesis statement and tells us that in the essay the writer will be writing the reasons of overweight in Western societies and the solution to overcome it.

The topic (background statement) does not have to be in the first sentence, but it should be made clear somewhere in the introduction. You must always have a thesis statement.
Paraphrasing

Another important point - don't copy from the question! You must paraphrase (put it in your own words). To do this you can use synonyms and move the order of the sentence around.

Using some of the same words is acceptable, but don't copy whole phrases.

You can see how the question above has been paraphrased. All the information is from the question, but it has been written in a different way and has not been copied.

Further Examples

Example 2:

1. Overpopulation of urban areas has led to numerous problems.

Identify one or two serious ones and suggest ways that governments and individuals can tackle these problems.

Select and use the words given in the box to complete the introduction.

Many _______________ of the world are currently experiencing problems _______________ by rapidly growing _______________ in _______________ areas, and both _______________ and individuals have a duty to find ways to _______________ these problems.

2. Levels of youth crime are increasing rapidly in most cities around the world.

What are the reasons for this, and suggest some solutions.

Over the last few decades, many cities around the world have seen alarming increases in the levels of youth crime. (Write a thesis statement)

3. Stress is now a major problem in many countries around the world.

What are some of the factors in modern society that cause this stress, and how can we reduce it?

Write an introduction to this question
Sample Answer:

Stress is a problem that can have detrimental effects on many people’s lives, and there are various factors in modern society responsible for this. However, there are ways to limit the potential impacts.

4. Unemployment has become an increasing problem in the recent past.

What factors contribute to an increase in unemployment and what steps can be taken to solve the problem?

Over the recent years, the level of unemployment has been increasing at an alarming rate in many countries around the world. There could be several reasons for this increase and practical solutions are must be available.