



WRITING THE INTRODUCTION

Aim of an Introduction

- ▶ A good introduction will provide a solid foundation and encourage readers to continue on to the main parts of your paper—the methods, results, and discussion.

Aim of an Introduction

- ▶ To let the reader know the issue you will be discussing. What the paper is about. Start with the broad issue.
- ▶ To present background information to explain what the issue is. Narrow it down to the actual topic.
- ▶ To let the reader know what to expect in the remainder of the paper. To give a roadmap of what to expect.

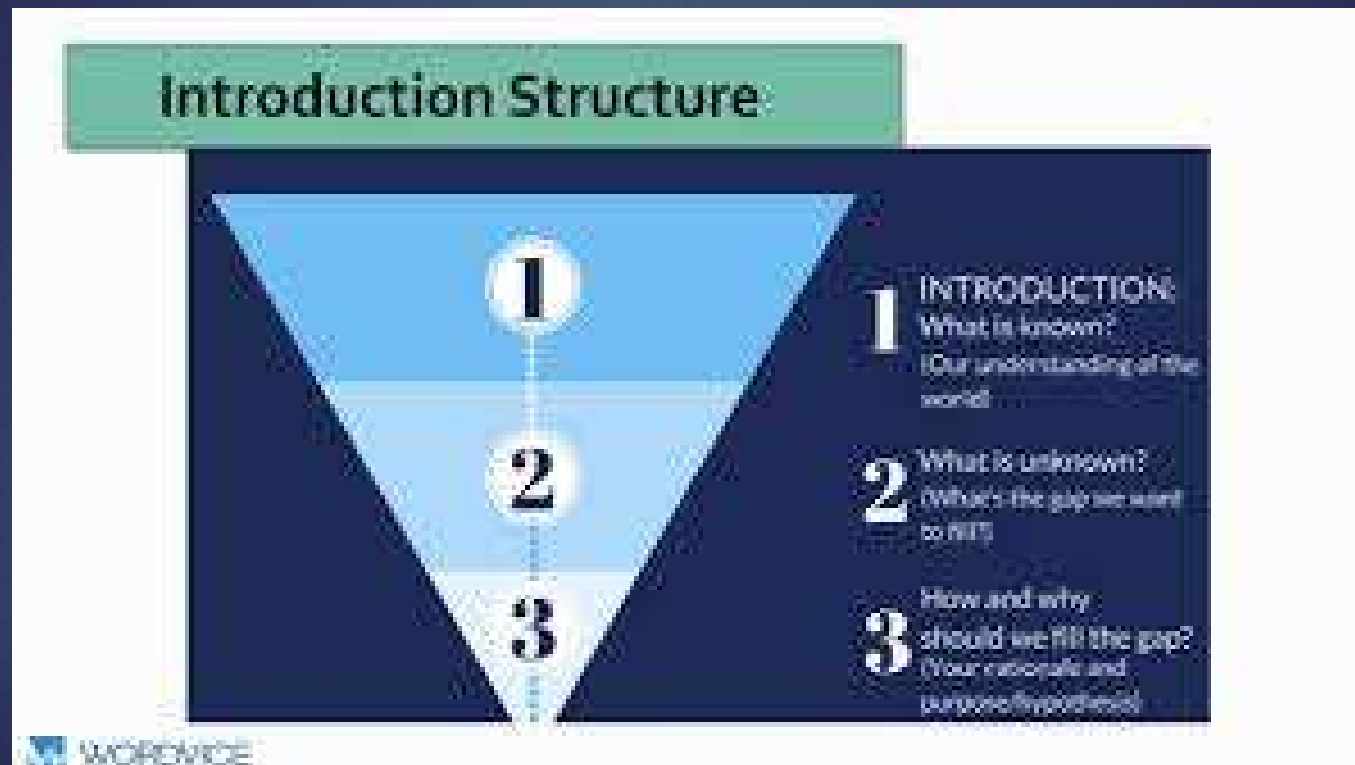
The Introduction

- ▶ **Elaborate on the rationale of your paper.** Once you have framed your work within a broader context you can elaborate more fully on the rationale of your research and its particular strengths and importance.
- ▶ The rationale should clearly and concisely indicate the value of your paper and its contribution to the field.
- ▶ Try to go beyond saying that you are filling a gap in the scholarship and emphasise the positive contribution of your work

The Introduction

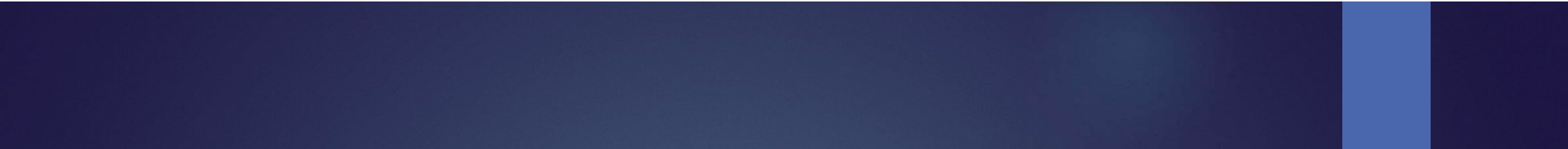
- ▶ Stress what is novel in your research and the significance of your new approach, but don't give too much detail in the introduction.
- ▶ A stated rationale could be something like: "the study evaluates the previously unknown anti-inflammatory effects of a topical compound in order to evaluate its potential clinical uses".

Introduction Structure



Example

- ▶ The resource curse has stymied development in numerous oil-rich economies. **The broad issue, the resource curse.**
- ▶ There is widespread recognition of this in Timor Leste. In 2005, a Petroleum Fund was established to ensure that withdrawals from this fund for government budgets are in line with the estimated sustainable income. **Narrowing it down to the issue which you are going to focus on, the Timor Leste Petroleum Fund.**

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- ▶ This study focuses on examining if the pattern of oil revenue expenditures is consistent with the stated aims of the petroleum fund of spending in line with the absorptive capacity of the economy, as well as to preserve inter-generational equity. **Stated aim, are oil revenue expenditures consistent with absorptive capacity and inter-generational equity?**

Example

- ▶ The second section of this paper discusses the literature on intergenerational equity as it relates to natural resource sovereign wealth funds. The third section discusses the Timor Leste Petroleum Fund and the pattern of oil revenues expenditures. Section four discusses the implications of the current pattern oil revenue expenditures for intergenerational equity while section five concludes by examining the policy implications of these findings **Roadmap. The study will also examine the implications of oil revenue expenditures from the Timor Leste Petroleum Fund for intergenerational equity and policy.**