

**Justice & Punishment**  
**Lesson 3: Introductions\_Student Worksheet**

[Watch this video that walks you through writing an introduction first.](#)

**Prompt:**

Based on “Mercury and the Workmen” by Aesop and “Thank You Ma’am” by Langston Hughes, write an essay explaining how justice was played out differently in each of the texts. Be sure to use evidence from both texts to develop your essay. Your essay should:

- Present and develop a central idea.
- Provide evidence and/or details from the passage(s).
- Use correct grammar, spelling, and punctuation.

**Lead or Hook**

Your lead is the very first part of your essay. It is one or two lines that works like a hook to grab your reader’s attention and get them excited about reading your piece. It comes right before your background information. Your lead should be engaging and should orient the reader to the topic you are writing about. Your lead should not be a random statement that does not have anything to do with your topic.

Write your lead in the space below.

1. **Write your lead here:**

**Background Information**

To prove your point effectively, it is important to make sure that your audience understands the topic you’re talking about. To do that, you need to build your audience’s background knowledge by providing information about your topic.

Write your background information in the space below.

2. **Write your background information here:**

### Thesis Statement

One **sentence** that expresses the main idea of an essay. It makes a claim, directly answering a question or prompt. The thesis statement lets the reader know what your essay is going to be about.

Write your thesis statement in the space below.

3. **Write your thesis statement here:**
4. **Copy and paste each part of your introduction from above in the space below. Be sure you include the lead first, then the background information and finally your thesis statement.**
5. **After you have a full introductory paragraph, copy and paste the completed paragraph into a blank word document that you will save as your working document and add to during the week.**
6. **Turn this document into your teacher for review and feedback.**