Introduction for Literary Analysis Paper

The introduction is where your reader will formulate their first impression of your paper. The introduction should be interesting, provide enough information to tantalize your reader, luring them into reading further. It is not always best to write the introduction first. After you have composed your paper, you will be more apt to write an introduction that is interesting and focused.

A few ways to begin your paper:

- Begin with a famous quotation. Just make sure it connects directly to your thesis.

- Begin with a question

- Begin with a quote from the story itself, followed by explanation—make sure it relates directly to your thesis

- Begin with a definition or explanation of a term relevant to your paper

- Begin with a paraphrased (in your own words) description of a scene from the story

- Begin with some historical background

- Begin with a very short narrative or anecdote that has a direct bearing on your paper

- Begin with an interesting fact

- Begin with an analogy. Make sure it's original but not too far-fetched

- Try to **blend this into your thesis** that is generally located at the end of your introductory paragraph. Make sure you **include title of story and author** somewhere in the first paragraph.
- Since you are writing about a short story, MAKE SURE YOU PUT QUOTES AROUND IT.