



# Signposting



**For longer papers** (that have chapters or numbered sections), signposts act like a roadmap for your reader. They preview the content of a section, and clarify or specify how ideas are related.

**It's a good idea to use signposts for these types of writing:**

- MA Thesis
- Dissertation
- Chapter for an edited volume
- Journal article
- Long research paper (more than 15 pages)

**Do not use signposting for short essays, under 10-15 pages.**

## Introduction-y Signposts

Use these types of signposts near the beginning of your whole manuscript, and also in the beginning of each main sub-section.

### Introduction-y Signpost Examples

This	paper essay chapter section	will address three main questions: reviews the literature... is divided into two parts: part one will... Part two will... critically examines... considers... explores... investigates... describes...		
		Then/ Next, this...	seeks to attempts to	investigate... examine... clarify... describe... further our understanding of... argue... evaluate... focus on...
			will (first)	review... consider... outline... discuss... demonstrate... illustrate...

**More example combinations:**

- This chapter will first... Next it will... Finally, it will...
- This paper begins by... It will then go on to... Finally, ...
- \_\_\_ involves the intersection of several complex issues including... This section addresses each of these questions in turn.

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## Introduction-y Signpost Examples (with “I” language)

In this	paper essay chapter section	I will (first)	argue... consider... discuss... etc.
		I present... I describe...	
I	will first introduce ___theory, then will... will first consider..., before explaining... present evidence that... begin by introducing..., then...		

## Conclusion-y Signposts

You do not necessarily need to use the words “In conclusion” or “In summary.”  
Also see the AUSB Writing Center handout: “Conclusion Strategies.”

## Conclusion-y Signpost Examples

(In conclusion, In summary,)	This paper This essay This chapter This section	has addressed three main questions:	
		has critically examined...	
		has reviewed the literature...	
		has (/I have)	demonstrated... shown... argued... suggested... proposed... identified... clarified... considered... established... discussed...

### More example combinations:

- This chapter has outlined...
- As this paper has demonstrated, ...
- As I have argued in this section, ...

## Signposts to use anywhere in your paper, when pointing back or forward



looking  
back

As	noted stated briefly discussed mentioned	above, previously, above in section ##,
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looking  
forward

...will be	discussed in more detail further discussed returned to taken up again further	below. in section ## below. later on.
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