

## USEFUL EXPRESSIONS: writing introductions

### Introducing the topic (generalisation)

In recent years |there has been | an increasing interest in ...  
Recently, | a growing concern about ...

The past decade has seen the rapid development of ...

One of the most important events of the 1990s was ...

There are many situations where ...

### Definitions of key terms

While a variety of definitions of the term ... have been suggested, this research paper will use the definition first suggested by ...

Throughout this essay / dissertation the term ... will refer to ... / will be used to refer to the European Patent Convention (hereinafter EPC) .

### The background / central issue(s)

However, these rapid changes are having a serious effect ...

The issue of X has been a controversial and much disputed subject within the field of ...  
So far, however, there has been little discussion about ...

However, far too little attention has been paid to ...

### Position statement (stating central claim)

It is argued that ...

It is maintained / claimed / suggested that ...

The final section of the paper examines whether, in the light of these findings, it is correct to suggest that X has failed / has been successful.

This paper finds that ...

### Aim

This paper will focus on ...

consider ...

This paper reviews ...

critically examines ...

offers a critical appraisal of ...

The aim of this essay / dissertation is to ...

This essay / research paper will review ...

### Overview of structure

The essay / research paper has been organised *in the following way / in four sections*.

This essay / research paper begins by *outlining* ... It will then go on to *show* ...

The first section / part of this essay / research paper *will examine* ...

The essay / research paper concludes with *an assessment of* ...

