Introductory Paragraph Composition

For the following prompt, set up your introductory paragraph as if you were going to write a five paragraph essay (**but you’re only writing the introductory paragraph**).

Prompt: In a five paragraph essay, explain what three improvements are most needed at Peabody Veterans Memorial High School.

-Remember to employ one of the techniques for starting off an introductory paragraph (from your notes). This precedes your thesis statement.

-Remember to have a complete thesis statement that offers the general topic of the paper as well as the specifics that you will be writing about in the body paragraphs. Do this first.

-Remember to offer a one sentence summary of each of the specific topics of your body paragraphs—same order as thesis. This goes at the end of your paragraph.

-Academic Tone:

-Double space compositions

--Do not use “I” “you” “we” “us” etc. in Formal or Academic Tone papers. Even though you are stating your opinions and ideas, you want it to sound stronger than an opinion.

-No contractions in Formal/Academic Tone

-Avoid hedge words “probably,” “maybe,” “perhaps,” etc.

Grading:

--100: -A technique to begin the paragraph is employed well. The opening of the paragraph is intriguing; the chosen technique is thorough, creative, and it is evident a lot of thought and effort went into the writing of the opening.

-Thesis: The general statement of what the essay will be about is thorough and clear. The specific points that will be developed in the body paragraphs are cogent (clear, logical, and convincing).

-Summary of specific points: a short summary of the importance of each of the topics of the body paragraphs give a clear preview of the arguments to the reader. The reader has a clear understanding of the arguments to come.

--5 points will be deducted for each part of the paragraph (Opening Technique, Thesis, Summary) that is not well-written or lacks clarity.

--10 points will be deducted for each part of the paragraph that is unclear, not convincing, or is evidence of little effort.

--15 points will be deducted for each part of the paragraph that is missing.

--1 point will be deducted for each grammatical error