

## Lesson 5: Introduce Your Fanzine

### UNIT: Storyteller Con

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#### TRANSCRIPT

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#### HOOK 1

Hi, writers. It's Margaret. Storyteller Con recently released an introduction video to help launch the convention. You already know a lot about Storyteller Con and how to make a fanzine. But for now, imagine that you didn't know anything about Storyteller Con at all. Take a look at the introduction video.

*- Whether you're in a convention hall, a library, a classroom, or at home, we are thrilled to welcome you to Storyteller Con. This convention brings readers and writers together all over the world. To participate, you can read this year's featured story and create your very own literary fanzine. We hope to see you there at Storyteller Con.*

Wow, that was exciting! Let's watch it again. This time, pay attention to what kinds of information was included in the introduction video. You'll discuss what you noticed after you watch the video again.

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## DISCUSSION 1

Discuss: What did you notice about what was included in the Storyteller Con introduction video?

## HOOK 2

Maybe you noticed how the video tried to get people excited about Storyteller Con. You may have noticed it mentioned some of the main activities, like reading stories and making fanzines. Or maybe you noticed how it invited people to participate. You may have noticed something else, and that's great.

No matter whether you're making an introduction in a video, or writing an introduction, introductions have similar parts. They get readers excited about a topic and give them an overview of what the rest of the writing will be about.

You're working on a fanzine for Storyteller Con. So far, you have two body paragraphs where you explain how you saw your theme in the story Aiko's Voice.

Today, you'll write an introduction to get your reader excited about reading your body paragraphs. Check out how I wrote my introduction. I started with a hook or a sentence that will get my reader interested in my fanzine. I asked a question to get my reader thinking about the topic. I wrote:

- Have you ever had to speak up for a friend?

I don't know how my reader will answer that question, but I can continue to get them interested by writing a little bit about the story, Aiko's Voice.

I'll write a summary of what happened in the story. To keep my summary short, I'll just include the main problem in the story and the resolution, or what happened in the end.

## DISCUSSION 2

Discuss: How would you explain the main problem and resolution from the story Aiko's Voice?

## HOOK 3

I don't know what you said, but here's how I wrote my summary:

- In the story Aiko's Voice by Emily Simon, Aiko needed to speak up for her friend, Sadie. At first, she couldn't and their friendship was hurt. In the end, Aiko found her voice and fixed her friendship with Sadie.

Now my reader will be interested to read the rest of my fanzine. I got the reader thinking about my topic in the hook, then got them interested in the story with a summary.

To finish my introduction, I need to write my thesis statement so my readers know what my fanzine will be all about. Check out how my introduction turned out:

- Have you ever tried to speak up for a friend? In the story Aiko's Voice by Emily Simon, Aiko needed to speak up for her friend, Sadie. At first, she couldn't, and their friendship was hurt. In the end, Aiko found her voice and fixed her friendship with Sadie. The theme of the story is it's important to speak up for your friends.

This is a complete introduction with a hook, summary, and my thesis statement.

Now it's your turn to write an introduction for your fanzine. Later on, you'll add a conclusion.

I'll get you started, step by step.

## **STEP 1**

Get your supplies.

## **STEP 2**

Get your Introduction worksheet.

To begin your introduction, you can get your reader interested to learn more with a hook. One strategy to get your reader interested is to ask them a question, like this:

- Have you ever had to speak up for a friend?

Or another strategy is to share a bit about your experience in your own life, like this:

- In my life, I have found it can be challenging to speak up.

To write your hook, you can use one of these sentences or come up with your own. Begin writing at the hook.

## **STEP 3**

To start your summary, the reader needs to know the title of the story, the author, and the main characters. You can complete this sentence with the main characters of the story or come up with your own. Continue writing where you left off.

## **STEP 4**

Now in your summary, your reader knows the basics about the story. To complete your summary, you can add a sentence or two that describes the main problem of the story and the resolution in your own words. Continue writing where you left off.

## STEP 5

Write your thesis statement to complete your introduction. It can be found on your Fanzine Planning worksheet.

## STEP 6

Read your introduction quietly to yourself. Double check that you have a hook, a summary, and your thesis. If you want, you can make changes.

## HOOK 4

Amazing job, writers! Your introduction will help your readers get an idea of what your fanzine will be about right at the start.

Storyteller Con also made a video to be played at the end of the convention. Don't worry. Our Storyteller Convention isn't over yet, but we can take a sneak preview at what the ending video contains. Take a look.

*- What a great Storyteller Convention. You read our feature story this year, made amazing fanzines, and shared them with others. We hope that you continue to read amazing stories and share your ideas with the world.*

That was fun. Let's watch it again. This time, pay attention to what kinds of information is included in the video.

*- What a great Storyteller Convention. You read our feature story this year, made amazing fanzines, and shared them with others. We hope that you continue to read amazing stories and share your ideas with the world.*

## DISCUSSION 4

Discuss: What did you notice about what was included in the Storyteller Con ending video?

## HOOK 5

Maybe you noticed how the video reviewed the main activities at Storyteller Con and shared a wish for what you could do next.

The goal of any conclusion, whether it be a video or in writing, is to review the main ideas and suggest something that the reader can do next.

Take a look at how I wrote my conclusion for my fanzine. My big ideas for my fanzine are here in my plan, my thesis, and my reasons. I wrote:

- The theme of this story is it's important to speak up for your friends. This theme was shown early in the story when Aiko didn't speak up for Sadie and later on when she finally did speak up.

To end my conclusion, I can include a suggestion for something that I want my reader to learn or do next after reading this fanzine. I think I really want more people to speak up for their friends. My reader can learn from Aiko's experience. Here's what I wrote next:

- I hope that we can all learn from Aiko's example and speak up for our friends when they need us.

Now it's your turn to write your conclusion. You'll review the main idea of your writing and suggest something for your reader to do next.

I'll get you started, step by step.

## **STEP 7**

Get your supplies.

## **STEP 8**

The first sentence of your conclusion will be your thesis statement. You can use one of these sentence starters to write your thesis statement. Begin writing at the star.

## **STEP 9**

Write your two reasons next. You can find your reasons on your Fanzine plan. You can write them in separate sentences or combine them into one sentence if you want.

## **STEP 10**

To end your conclusion, you can give a suggestion of something that your reader can do. Maybe you want them to share what they learned from this story with others, or take the life advice of the theme and apply it in their own life, or maybe something else?

Discuss as a class: What do you want your reader to do with what they learned from your fanzine?

## **STEP 11**

Write a final sentence or two that suggests something the reader can do with the ideas they learn in your fanzine.

## **STEP 12**

You now have a complete draft of your fanzine, which is something to celebrate!

To keep your draft together, you can put your fanzine in order with your Introduction first, Body 1 Draft, Body 2 Draft, and Conclusion last. Staple your draft together with one staple in the corner of the page.

## **WRAP UP**

Amazing job, writers! Your fanzine is now a complete draft with an introduction and a conclusion. Your introduction will get your reader excited to keep reading your fanzine, and it gives an overview of the main ideas. Your conclusion reviews the main ideas and gives the reader a suggestion of what they can do next.

In the next lesson, you'll edit your fanzine. Then you'll design your final draft and make your fanzine truly unique.

Don't forget to put your V.I.P.s somewhere safe, and I'll see you next time.