Introduction

Context and importance
→ **First paragraph**

- Guide the reader into the topic and set context for your study
- Strong opening sentence to get reader's attention
- Clarity and relevance >> Catchiness
- Already identify your subject of study

DO NOT: use "this is important". Should be clear from your text

Background
→ **2/3 paragraphs**

- Review previous research RELEVANT to your topic; just the part related to your study
- Describe which approaches were previously used for the problem

Need for your work
→ **2/3 paragraphs**

- Clearly state limitations / gaps of previous research
- Explain how your study adds to the previous knowledge
- Introduce your system / organism / study area and why
- If using complex methods, explain the need for them

TIP: focus on the gap knowledge you want to address

Specify research problem
→ **Last paragraph**

- Set a clear goal
- Research question / hypothesis
- Provide a short overview of the experimental design

TIP: present the hypotheses in the same order as the identified knowledge gaps