ABSTRACT

The abstract is usually 150-200 words in length. This is a short assessment of what your paper covers.

After you write your abstract you need to list keywords. These keywords would be the big ideas your paper covers.

*Keywords: Important Point, Important Concept, Connected Idea*
Title

Your introductory paragraph should bring your reader into the conversation. Do not assume your reader has pondered the same information or participated in your conversation. Set the stage or define your purpose for writing. Sometimes your thesis appears in the opening paragraph, but that is not a set in stone rule (unless your professor tells you otherwise).

In the event you would like to use the words, thoughts or ideas of others to support your assertions you should cite your source. Failure to cite a source is plagiarism (Last Name, Year). Please note there is a comma between the last name and the year and the period is after the final parenthesis. If you signal your source into your paper, you would not need to use their last name in the end citation. You would also put the year of publication following the reference to the author. For example: Smith (2012) asserts the shortest distance between two points is a straight line. Please note I did not use Smith’s first name in the citation. Also, if you have a complex sentence that incorporates your source for only half of the sentence, cite the source as soon as you finish that portion of the sentence. You may have a citation mid-sentence. If you decided to incorporate a direct quote longer than 4 typed lines you need to use a block quote. If you do not know how format a block quote, the owl@purdue is a helpful website.

If you use the ideas, thoughts, or words of another source you must give them credit on the sentence level AND in the Reference page. Your sources should be alphabetized. Go to the next page for a sample Reference page. Noodlebib will help you format this. The Reference page always starts on a new page.
References

A Last Name, First Name. (YEAR). *Book titles should be italicized*. Location: Publisher. Pages.

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