

The following is an example of how to start **Part I** of this paper. You can use this as a model to help you write your own paper, but *you cannot use this exact phrasing*.

Begin this section with a discussion of what the term *etic* means and why it is important to be able to take this perspective. Then apply an etic perspective to the aspect of culture you have chosen to discuss.

Part I

Include a section heading here.

Introduce your topic in the first sentence.

In this section, I will examine the state of higher education in America from an etic perspective. As Crapo (2013) describes it, “etic models invariably

Set up a quotation with a signal phrase, enclose it within quotation marks, and include a citation and page number.

describe each culture in ways that seem alien to its own participants but that facilitate comparisons between cultures and the discovery of universal principles in the structure and functioning of cultures” (p.27). In his seminal article entitled

Body Ritual among the Nacirema, Miner (1956) describes aspects of the

Include a citation every time you paraphrase information that you have learned from your sources. The majority of information that you present in your paper should be paraphrased (rather than quoted) in order to show your understanding of the material.

“Nacirema” culture from an etic perspective, allowing the reader to gradually realize that the Nacirema are Americans. It is helpful to examine American culture from an etic perspective in order to step outside our own experience as enculturated members of this society. From an etic perspective, American practices probably seem just as strange or unusual to outsiders as other cultural practices sometimes appear to us before we understand the cultural context behind them.

Examining higher education in America from an etic perspective is instructive. American colleges and universities are considered some of the best in

Use reputable statistics and/or scholarly sources to support your assertions.

You only need one source in addition to the textbook and the Miner article for this section, but you can include more if you would like to do so.

It is okay to occasionally use reputable news sources to refer to current events.

Avoid opinion or editorial pieces, however, and focus on reports of factual information.

Examine how outsiders might view this aspect of American culture.

the world; however, American students often have to take on staggering debt in a bid to achieve the “American dream” (U.S. Department of Education, 2012). The total amount of student loan debt in America is approaching \$1.2 trillion (Chopra, 2014). The average graduate in 2014 had approximately \$33,000 in student loan debt, leaving many students hesitant to take on other large debts, such as mortgages (Izzo, 2014). If the trends continue the way the U.S. Department of Education (2012) has predicted, by 2016, the cost to attend a public college will have more than doubled over the past fifteen years. Around the rest of the world, students protest tuition increases that might appear miniscule to Americans. In London, thousands of protesters marched against tuition increases in England, which would be capped at a maximum of £9,000 per year (or around \$14,500) (BBC, 2011). Recently, Germany decided to make higher education free to all students (O’Shaughnessy, 2014). Previously, fees were quite affordable at around \$630 per semester (O’Shaughnessy, 2014).

While Americans enjoy high quality education, the amount of debt they must incur leaves many critical of the higher education system. Even American President Obama noted that colleges should find ways to reduce costs (Hudson, 2014). Cultural outsiders, especially Germans, might very well conclude that their own system of higher education is preferable, and many would likely be surprised at the lack of protests and activism among American college students.

Remember to include a full reference entry at the end of your paper for each source you have cited in this section.