



Writing the Hook

Hook – Lead – Attention Grabber

Beginning an essay with an effective **Hook** is absolutely essential! The hook is what inspires the reader to continue on and really ‘want’ to read the paper. There are many different methods for writing effective, engaging, and interesting hooks. Regardless of the chosen method, the hook must **ALWAYS** lead into the **THESIS**. The average length of a hook should be **3-7** sentences (depending on the topic of the paper, and the method that is chosen)

OPEN WITH A SERIES OF QUESTIONS	Have you ever wondered how you’d survive if you found yourself alone in the wilderness? Would you know how to create your own shelter? Find edible food or clean drinking water? Would you know how to track where you are going and where you have been?
OPEN WITH AN ANNOUNCEMENT	Caution! This is not a cookbook for the gourmet. You will find nothing fancy and exotic when you open this cover. These recipes are strictly for the cook on a tight budget.
OPEN WITH A BOLD AND CHALLENGING STATEMENT	Contrary to what many people think, most learning takes place after that final bell rings at 2:30 and students head out to meet their busses. Most learning takes place outside of school.
OPEN WITH A QUOTATION FROM SOMEBODY	I could still hear the nagging voice that told me, “You’re going to regret this.” That’s what my best friend Liza said as I got on the roller coaster, without thinking about my low tolerance for extreme motions.
OPEN WITH A RIDDLE OR PUZZLE	What textbook has no pages, is miles wide, smells like a creek and has been around for millions of years? That’s right-Outdoor School.
OPEN WITH A PERSONAL EXPERIENCE	I’m still glad I didn’t cry at the funeral, although I did in my room later.
OPEN WITH HOW YOU FELT	My hands were sweaty! My teeth wouldn’t quit chattering. Prickly fingers ran up my spine. What would happen next?
GIVE SOME BACKGROUND INFORMATION	I come from a family of six kids. In comparison to some, this is not many; but to most, six kids is an awful lot! As the middle child, and oldest girl, I was often responsible for my younger siblings. It is because of this, that to do this day, I feel incredibly over-protective of my siblings.