

Hooks

Writing Module

Student Booklet

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SB#1: Engage Prior Knowledge— Silent Warm-Up

What do you already know about writing a good introduction for an essay?

What must a good introduction have?

SB#2: Demonstrate and Practice— Writing Hooks

Directions: Read the paragraph and write a hook to grab the reader’s attention. There are many possible correct answers! An example is completed for you in each section.

thought-provoking observation:

Example:

The human body can go for much longer without food than it can without water.

Water is critical for our health. Parents and schools should help young people understand the benefits of drinking water regularly and should make it easier for us to do so.

1) Now you try it:

If so many students continue to fail Mr. Smith’s class, why don’t they study harder for their tests? This paper will outline some of the best ways to study for your physics exams.

question:

Example:

Have you ever tried to grow something in the blistering Texas heat, only to have your plants wither up and die after a month, or even less?

Those of us who are determined to garden in Texas have learned to cope with the extreme weather. There are a few simple strategies you can follow to help you raise healthy, beautiful plants, no matter what the Texas climate serves up.

2) Now you try it:

That kind of adventure in the wilderness is exactly what 11 young men from our school will experience this summer, with the High School Adventurers program. This program gives young people a chance to build leadership skills by facing the challenges of an outdoor trip.

SB#2: Demonstrate and Practice— Writing Hooks (cont.)

specific example:

Example:

The other night, I was watching TV in the afternoon with my five-year-old sister, and a horrific story of violence was shown on the news.

As I watched the show, I became more aware of how many news stories contained violence that was too disturbing for my young sister to watch. I believe that TV networks need to take responsibility and limit the violence shown while young children are likely to be watching.

3) Now you try it:

These kinds of parties are becoming more and more common. Teenagers all over the world have special celebrations to mark the most important birthdays of their adolescence.

quotation:

Example:

“Don’t be afraid!” my friends shouted at me from the bottom of the expert slope. “Just point your skis down the mountain and follow us!”

This bold (but stupid!) approach to learning how to ski is not something I would recommend to others. Instead, you can find great ski instructors all over the country who can help you master the basics before you risk your neck on an expert slope.

4) Now you try it:

This comment hurt, partly because it was painful but more so because it was something I already knew, deep down inside. Sometimes our best friends can tell us things we already know but just don’t want to admit to ourselves.

SB#3: Practice—Writing Hooks

Directions: Read the paragraphs and write a hook to grab the reader’s attention. There are many possible correct answers! Choose from among the four types of hooks we have discussed today, and write the type of hook you used at the bottom of the paragraph.

1.

Through experiences like this, participating in sports can make us more than good athletes. Sports have helped me become more mature, a better team player, and someone who can face challenges in life with confidence.

Type of hook: _____

2.

I have needed that kind of advice more often than I can count, and my cousin was always there to provide it. My cousin is the most important person in my life, because he has supported me at home, at school, and in my relationships with my peers.

Type of hook: _____

Scoring:	
	Points earned (circle one):
Definition of hook	0 1
Four types of hooks	0 1 2 3 4
Hook type is correct	0 1
Hook matches key ideas	0 2
Total points (out of 8):	<div style="border: 1px dashed black; width: 100px; height: 30px; margin: 0 auto;"></div>

Name: _____

Date: _____

SB#4: Independent Practice

Part 1: Review the Strategy

1. What is a hook? _____
2. What are the four types of hooks that we learned today?
 - a. _____
 - b. _____
 - c. _____
 - d. _____

Directions: Read the paragraph and write a hook to grab the reader’s attention. There are many possible correct answers! Choose from among the four types of hooks we have discussed today, and write the type of hook you used at the bottom of the paragraph.

There is nothing more refreshing on a hot summer’s day. For this reason, the city parks department should allow residents to swim in the icy cold waters of the Central Springs for free.

Type of hook: _____