

Plant- LA

Writing an AWESOME ESSAY Starts with an AWESOME HOOK!

When it comes to writing, one of the most important skills is knowing how to write a good hook!

The **hook** is the very **first sentence in the essay**, and **a good one creates a lasting impression with the reader**.

One mistake students frequently make is writing general statements for a hook such as:

- "Hello, my name is _____ and today I am going to write about..."
- "Volunteering after school is an important part of learning responsibility..."

*THIS KIND OF INTRO IS **BORING!**



Instead, HOOK the reader so they **WANT** to keep reading your essay. Below are some ideas.

8 TYPES OF HOOKS

Question

When writing a question, try to create a picture in the reader's mind. Use the words who, what, when, where, why, is, how, or are at the beginning of the sentence.



Quote

When writing a quote, it can be a direct quotation from a book, TV show, movie, or a famous person.

Onomatopoeia

Onomatopoeia is a word that makes sounds. Those can be animal sounds, car sounds, or any other sound. Examples include: Bang! Woof! or Cock-a-doodle-doo!



Poem

Use a poem from a famous author, or make up your own.

Song

Use a line or two from your favorite song on the radio. Make sure you relate it to your essay.

Interjection

Interjections express emotions. Examples are Aha!, Stop!, Ugh!, Help!, Well!, YOW!, Brrrr!, Yummy!

Startling Statistic

Statistics show relationships with numbers. Find a surprising statistic involving your topic.

Dialogue

Dialogue features two or more people talking.



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SAMPLE HOOKS

***Here is an example of 8 different hooks which could be used for writing an EXPOSITORY ESSAY about my FAVORITE TELEVISION SHOW, *Spongebob Squarepants*:

QUESTION

• Where in the Pacific Ocean can you find a delicious Krabby Patty to eat, live in a pineapple, and drive in an underwater boat? Bikini Bottom, of course!

QUOTE

• "Do you smell that? That smell--It's the smell of a smelly smell that smells smelly," stated Spongebob from the show *Spongebob Squarepants*.

ONOMATOPOEIA

• "Meoowww!" said Gary, Spongebob's pet snail.

POEM

• Roses are red, violets are blue. I love *Spongebob Squarepants*, do you?

SONG

• "Are ya ready kids? Aye, aye, Captain. I can't hear you! Aye, aye Captain. Ohhhh!" My favorite TV show started to play on Nickelodeon.

INTERJECTION

• "Noooo!" Don't touch the TV, I am watching my favorite show, *Spongebob Squarepants*.

STARTLING STATISTIC

• Over 1 million adults and children worldwide tune in to watch the TV show, *Spongebob Squarepants* on a weekly basis.

DIALOGUE

• "There's nothing wrong with getting kissys from your grandmother," said Spongebob. "No, especially if you're a big baby who wears diapers!" responded Fish.