

Essay Hooks Ideas

A hook is the first one or two sentences of your essay. It serves as to *hook* or otherwise grab the reader's attention. A hook should be memorable, enticing, and, above all, inviting.

Begin with a Quote

"So we beat on, boats against the current, borne back ceaselessly into the past." These words of Nick Carraway (Fitzgerald, 1922) perfectly describe...

"Not all those who wander are lost." And yes, indeed, every person ...

*"When we love, we always strive to become better than we are. When we strive to become better than we are, everything around us becomes better too." Agree or not, but these words from *The Alchemist* determine...*

"Never mistake activity for achievement." John Wooten ...

"Learn to laugh" were the first words from my kindergarten teacher uttered after Ralph Thorsen spilled paint on my daffodil picture.

Share an Anecdote

As my cousin and I pedaled our new bikes to the beach, six years old, suntanned and young, we met an old, shaggy-haired man weaving unsteadily on a battered old bike.

For 27 years, my father made it his occupation to scrape and claw and grunt his way into the bowels of the earth, searching for fuel. On April 19, 2004, the bowels of the earth clawed back.

Deciding to attend Hampton Roads Academy, a private school, was one of my most difficult decisions.

Open with a Question (Or even a Riddle]

What would you do if you could play God for a day? That's exactly what the leaders of the tiny island nation of Guam tried to answer.

What textbook has no pages, is miles wide, smells like a creek and has been around for millions of years?

Have you ever wondered how you'd survive if you found yourself alone in the wilderness?

Have you ever wondered whether Anna Karenina still loved Alexei if she hadn't decided to commit a suicide?

Set a Scene/Begin En Media Res

The day of his birth began with Hurricane Charlie pounding at our door in Charleston, South Carolina.

"You're going to regret this." That's what my best friend Liza said as I got on the roller coaster.

I'm still glad I didn't cry at the funeral, though I did in my room later.

Begin with an Interesting Fact or Definition

Spain, though hardly a literary juggernaut, translates more books in one year than the entire Arab world has in the past one thousand years.

The average iceberg weighs over 100,000 metric tons.

Seventy percent of all jobs found today were obtained through networking.

Reveal a Common Misconception

Any parent will tell you that goldfish are a great first pet for a child. They hardly need any attention, and they won't be around for too long. Flushing a goldfish in its first week is pretty common—it even happened to my first goldfish. But it turns out that goldfish aren't as helpless as we all think."

While most coffee enthusiasts would tell you that their favorite drink comes from a bean, they would be wrong. Coffee is actually made from a seed that is simply called a bean."