

Start an essay or story with an exciting 'Hook'. A hook gets the reader interested in reading the story.

HOOK EXAMPLES

Run! Go! Run! These were the sounds of the enthusiastic crowd as we watched my sister's championship track meet.

Boom! Boom! We could hear the loud clapping of the thunder during the wild thunderstorm!

My excitement grew as I entered the aquarium and read the sign: New and Amazing Sea Animals at the Arizona Aquarium!

What every good paragraph needs:

Topic Sentence - The most important sentence of the paragraph in which the main idea is stated.

Relevant Details - Supports the topic and creates a picture in the reader's mind. Concluding or Closing Sentence - The last sentence of the paragraph and summarizes the main idea of the paragraph.

Transition Words: Transition words help the reader move from one idea to the next. Now only should transition words be at the beginning of paragraphs, but should also be embedded within the paragraph.

Transition Words Examples:

First, Next, Last, In addition, In the first place, Lastly, However, So, Then, Therefore, Consequently, Finally, After all, Soon, Because, To begin with, To summarize, In closing, In conclusion...

Editing Tips: There are many editing or proofreading tools for young writers to use during the writing process. I like to make sure of the basics with my students: capitalization, spelling, and punctuation. I emphasize these three for every sentence.

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Happy Writing!