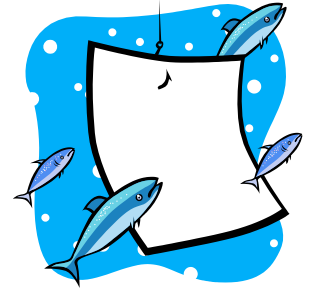


# 6 Ways to “Hook” Your Reader

Just like fishermen use a hook to catch fish, authors use different strategies to “catch” readers. One thing authors do is make their first sentence or two interesting for the reader. This makes the reader want to keep reading.



## 1. Question

This will get the reader thinking about your piece right from the beginning.

*“What do you consider work? Homework? Yardwork? Cleaning up that three-ring circus that is your bedroom?”*

## 2. Dialogue

Choosing an interesting dialogue sentence builds your character from the start.

*“Hold on tight,” my dad yelled. We just finished buckling in as the coasted jerked into motion. This was my first roller coaster ride.”*

## 3. Interesting fact

Tells the reader something they don’t already know and makes them want to learn more.

*“According to surveys, half of all adults believe in the supernatural and one person in ten claims to have seen a ghost.”*

## 4. Description of setting or character

Helps the reader visualize the main character or where the story takes place.

*“The huge vines wrapped around the ancient trees. The leaves were so thick they blocked out the sunlight. Small animals scampered along the forest floor.”*

## 5. Single word or onomatopoeia

Creates dramatic effect that makes your reader want to find out what the sound is or why the word is important.

*“Boom! The shot rang out in the dark of the night, but no one could tell where it came from.”*

## 6. Strong opinion or feeling

Lets your reader know where you stand right away.

*“There’s no such thing as ghosts!”*

\*There are many more types of “hooks” you can use. These are just a few suggestions to get you started.

## How Do I Write a Personal Narrative (Memoir)?

1. Choose an important SMALL MOMENT from your life.
2. Tell your story in SEQUENTIAL ORDER with a beginning, middle, and end.
3. Write in the FIRST PERSON and the PAST TENSE.
4. Include DESCRIPTIONS of what you hear, smell, taste, feel, and think.
5. Start with a BOLD BEGINNING that HOOKS your reader.
6. Conclude with a LESSON you have learned or piece of ADVICE.