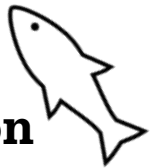




# Hook, Line, & Sinker:



## 25 Interesting Hooks to Catch A Reader's Attention

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This collection of 25 exceptionally engaging hooks (in no particular order) can be used for academic writing, fiction writing, speeches, debates, journalism stories, and all manner of applications. Note: make sure your hook aligns with your purpose!

1. Flashes. Glimpses. Sparse, quick prose.
2. Grand philosophical declaration.
3. A line (or short exchange) of compelling conversation.
4. An invitation explicitly extended to the reader.
5. An insightful or simple question that (probably, hopefully) has a complex answer.
6. A confession from the narrator or author (Note: do not overshare. TMI is TMI!).
7. Movie voice over (“In a world where/with/without...”).
8. Just the facts—day, time, place, weather, etc. (“11:42pm. New Year’s Eve, 1999. Switzerland.”)
9. Compare and contrast two things that wouldn’t normally be associated with each other.
10. Start with how the story ends and work backwards.
11. Take a magnifying glass to a single object, person, or moment in time. Use dazzling sensory details!
12. First-person, real-time monologue (either spoken or internal).
13. Cryptic snippet that makes the reader think, “Hang on, tell me more!”
14. Jump right in to the action sequence. Think James Bond film.
15. A brief theoretical situation that illustrates an issue, like a philosophical thinking exercise.
16. Famous quote from a *relevant* source (Should you quote Dr. Seuss in a math thesis? Probably not).
17. A concise anecdote that contextualizes of the rest of the writing.
18. Gaze into the future (near or distant).
19. Harken back to the past (near or distant).
20. Describe the place/space the narrator is in. This could be physical or mental.
21. A letter, text, post card, email, some sort of communication that the character is reading or writing.
22. The narrator’s frank thoughts about a specific issue.
23. Introduce a character who embodies a human flaw or praise-worthy trait.
24. Present a dilemma that creates obvious tension.
25. Humorous or wild statement (“Until I accidentally stole the Mona Lisa, my life was pretty dull.”).