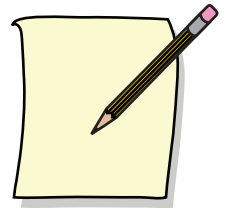


Argument Writing: The Introductory Paragraph

Types of Hooks



Every piece of writing should start with an introduction that really pulls the reader in. Use this resource to help you craft a great beginning to your story or essay.

Type of Hook	Examples
Quotation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• General Patton once said, "If a man does his best, what else is there?" General Patton, where were you after my championship baseball game? This advice would have really come in handy!• When Paul Wellstone said "Education and democracy have the same goal: The fullest possible development of human capabilities," he highlighted an important connection between politics and education.
Anecdote (brief story)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• There was nothing more isolating than being alone in a foreign country, with no cell phone, no money, and no ability to speak the language.• It was Christmas of 1995 and my family was huddled under the tree, each bough weighted down with ornaments. When my parents handed me the small, ratty box wrapped in newspaper, they were about to teach me a valuable lesson: Always expect the unexpected.
Rhetorical Question	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Have you ever wondered what you would do if you couldn't fail?• What is the one thing you can do to make the world a better place?



<p>Interesting Fact</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • China is going to spend \$850 billion to clean up its water supply over the next decade. This calls into question: What is America doing to clean and protect our water? • Ancient Egyptians used heavy eye makeup to keep evil spirits at bay and to protect their eyes from infection. People's customs might seem strange to outsiders, but they are perfectly normal to those in that culture.
<p>Simile or Metaphor</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • When I first went to Japan, I was like a baby bird trying to fly for the first time. • The high rate of poverty in America is our country's elephant in the room.
<p>One Word</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mud. Mud was everywhere. It was in my hair, in my boots, on my jacket, and even in my ears! • Failure. Most people consider it a horrible experience, but I have learned to welcome it.
<p>Paint a Picture</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As the glowing moon shone above in the black sky, it laid out a path of diamonds from the shore of the ocean to the its lowest curve, just brushing the water's surface in the distance. That peaceful night had no intention of giving away the shock that awaited us the next morning. • With gentle puffs of wind, the few leaves that were left on the trees fluttered to the ground like feathers. I felt like nature was trying to calm me after the most horrible, unforgettable day of 5th grade.
<p>Thought or Observation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The sun is the most beautiful just before it sets - that's how I felt about saying goodbye to my new friends on the last day of camp. • My mom's face gets scrunched up and twisted when she watches the news these days.

