

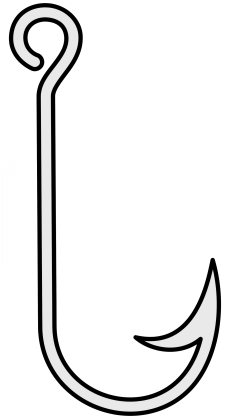
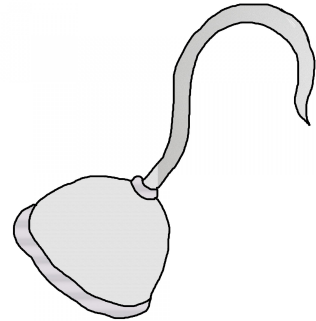
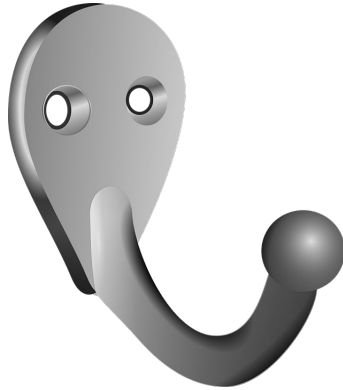
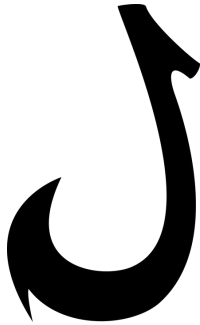
The Hook



Please follow along with the handout.

What is a hook?

- The first one or two sentences of the text
- Works to grab the reader's attention
- Helps the reader decide whether or not they want to continue reading
- There are many different styles



Using the model

- For each type of hook, you will be given model sentences.
- Do NOT copy the model sentence!
- Write your own sentence about your story in the same writing style.

Scene Setting

- It was a dark and stormy night.
- The trees were just starting to turn orange and red.

The bait

- I should have known Mrs. Schwarz hated kids.
- People should always think twice before sitting in a wet seat on a roller coaster.

Telling detail

- There on the pavement was a small child's tennis shoe.
- I have a small, thin scar on my elbow from falling out of the oak tree.

Character Throwing

- Teddy Howland was the skinniest, tallest kid in all of Eureka.
- You've never seen anger until you've seen Coach Colin lose a match.

Dialogue

- “I’m not even sure I like you,” I said to my mom after school one day.
- “Practice makes perfect,” my dance instructor always says.

Intentional Fragments

- Identical rows of desks. Gray shirts everywhere you look. No bright patterns, no variety, no uniqueness. This is no kind of school for me.
- A cup. A quarter. A piece of string. That's all it took for Callie to perform her first magic trick.

Question

- What's more important, preserving a friendship or telling the truth?
- Have you ever seen anything so bizarre happen that you immediately knew no one would believe you?

Hypothetical

- Imagine a girl who's just deleted her Facebook account and tossed her smartphone off a bridge. Social life damaged, or a new beginning?
- Let's say Christmas is canceled for the rest of eternity. If you're anything like me, I bet you'd be pretty upset.