



Argumentative Essay



Let's do this together!



Writing A Hook

What is a hook?

- An opening statement that grabs the reader's attention
- It should relate to what your claim is

Types of Hooks

- Interesting question: *What is the difference between successful college students and unsuccessful college students?*
- Strong Statement/Declaration: *Online college classes are cheaper and more effective than in-person college classes.*
- The Fact/Statistic: *Almost two-thirds of American adults at some point in their life lived in a home with at least one gun.*
- The Description Hook: *The dog howled in pain and limped along the side of the road. His leg was cut and blood streamed down his leg.*
- The Quotation Hook: *Nelson Mandela said, "Education is the most powerful weapon you can use to change the world."*

Examples of Hooks

- If you didn't have to waste time sitting in traffic jams, what would you do with all of the extra hours you'd have each week?
- Speed limit laws should not make people choose between what is legal and what is safe.
- Research shows that the speed limit has little effect on how fast people drive.
- Imagine driving down the road at a speed in which you both felt safe, and felt like you were going to be somewhere on time!
- "It is more fun to drive a slow car fast than to drive a fast car slow."
 - -Abner Perney.

Now Write Your Hook

1. Choose one of the types of hooks:

- -Interesting question: *What is the difference between successful college students and unsuccessful college students?*
- -Strong Statement/Declaration: *Online college classes are cheaper and more effective than in-person college classes.*
- -The Fact/Statistic: *Almost two-thirds of American adults at some point in their life lived in a home with at least one gun.*
- -The Description Hook: *The dog howled in pain and limped along the side of the road. His leg was cut and blood streamed down his leg.*
- -The Quotation Hook: *Nelson Mandela said, "Education is the most powerful weapon you can use to change the world."*

2. Now write your hook

Now, write your first paragraph

-Hook

-Give details about the issue

-Take a clear stance on the issue

-The last sentence should be your **argumentative claim**

Tired, crabby, or unfocused in class? It could be the food you are eating. The lack of healthy and tasty school lunch selections has recently become a problem in almost every school. Most schools sell junk food to students and I think this is wrong. There are many good reasons to remove junk food from school lunch menus, and creating a healthier student body is number one. Junk foods should be taken out of school lunch menus because they affect your body and mind in a negative ways.

Second Paragraph

- Topic sentence: should include Reason #1 of your claim statement
- Use one or two pieces of evidence (quotes, statistics, research) To support your Reason #1.
- Use supporting sentences to tie everything together

Junk food is a major cause of childhood obesity. 32% of youth are overweight and nearly 74% are unfit, according to a recent poll in Men's Health Magazine. The bad food offered in public school contributes to this unacceptable problem. A single can of soda has as much as 13 teaspoons of sugar in the form of high-fructose corn syrup. Many of these sodas are available to kids in school at low prices, as well as other junk food. School lunches have a very high fat content and the USDA supplies schools with the same commodity foods as prisons. Due to lack of fresh and flavorful choices, students will choose the cheap junk food. If we could stock school vending machines with healthier foods, this would make a huge difference in the childhood obesity rate.

Third Paragraph

-Exact same format as the second paragraph

Another reason cafeterias should start serving healthier food is that junk food does not give kids the energy needed to stay focused in school or the power to participate in sports. Lunch is right in the middle of the day; if you eat fatty or sugary foods, it could cause you to get tired and not pay attention in your afternoon classes. In addition, junk food zaps your energy. Our school swim coach, who is educated in athletic nutrition, states that we shouldn't be consuming fried, fatty foods before we exercise. We should be eating healthy, natural foods because these give us energy and are good for our bodies.

Fourth Paragraph- Change it up a bit

- Include a concession or a counter argument and a thorough response to it.
- Bonus if you can add scientific evidence to support your response!

Many people may argue that banning junk food in schools is not a good idea. Students say that junk food just tastes better than healthy food and they prefer it. There is no rule that says healthy food can't taste good! Many junk foods can be replaced by similar tasting, healthier substitutes. Instead of fried ships, provide bakes. Instead of soda, offer carbonate water. If substituting all of the health foods does not work, what about reducing the amount we serve to healthier portions? There are multiple ways to solve the problem of people's taste buds craving tasty foods. We just have to enforce this change.

Paragraph 5: Final Paragraph

- Restate your position in a different way than you did in your first paragraph

Ex: Most schools sell junk food to students and I think this is wrong

Vs.

Providing junk food in school cafeterias is just an all-around bad idea

-Restate 2-3 reasons why you are taking this stance

-Call to action

Ex: Now that we understand the problem, it's time to fix it by banning the sale of junk food in schools.