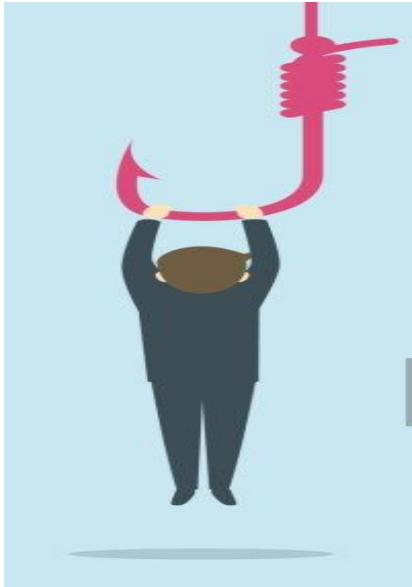


HOOK



What is a hook?

What might be a hook in academic writing, mainly in a paragraph?

Source: <https://www.istockphoto.com/es/vector/de-pesca-gm1029317432-275856204>

Read attentively the paragraph below, and identify what the hook may be. Talk to a close partner, and justify your academic guessing. If it is possible, highlight the hook with a highlighter.

“A college degree is not a sign that one is a finished product but an indication a person is prepared for life”, Edward Malloy. Personally, I need to write a thesis and defence it to achieve a college degree. The process of writing a thesis begins when a student selects a narrowed research topic that will contribute to the student’s field of study. To do so, the student needs to write many drafts to refine their work until their thesis supervisor deems it to be acceptable according to the academic standards of the institution. Essentially, the thesis must include several key sections such as an introduction, a literature review, a methodology, results and a conclusion. The writing procedure ends when the thesis writer presents and defends orally their research findings and answers questions posed by an academic jury, who are most of the cases professors in the field. The oral defense assesses student’ ability to conduct independent research, analytical and public speaking skills, time management as well as their proficiency in using digital tools. For example, the speaker needs to prove to the academic jury that they are knowledgeable in detailed about their own research from the beginning to the end. In short,

a student needs to complete academic research and its oral defense to prove their understanding in the studied field.

Feedback:

If you consider “A college degree is not a sign that one is a finished product but an indication a person is prepared for life”, as a hook, you are certainly right. To make a paragraph strong in meaning, a hook must be included to catch or grab a readers’ attention and thought-provoking. In other words, to promote think critically. Strategically, a hook is always written at the beginning of a paragraph, that is why it is a hook. A **hook** can be many things such as *a fact, a statistics, a quotation, a description of a person or a thing, a question, a metaphor, an anecdote, a contradictory statement, a joke* among others. There are compulsory considerations when selecting a hook, it must be relevant to the *topic sentence and its controlling idea*. Even though, a joke may be considered as a hook, the writer must maintain the appropriate formality of academic writing, known as tone and style. All of those considerations will enhance the readers’ understanding clearly and easily. It can be concluded that to maintain a reader’s interest, a writer must eliminate all possible distractors, and be in readers’ shoes when selecting a hook.

Examples of a *fact*:

The National University of Chimborazo requires all students to complete a thesis or dissertation and defend it in front of an academic committee as a standard graduation practice. Then, I need to write a thesis and defence it to achieve a college degree. The process of writing a thesis begins when a student selects a narrowed research topic that will contribute to the student’s field of study. To do so, the student needs to write many drafts to refine their work until their thesis supervisor deems it to be acceptable according to the academic standards of the institution. Essentially, the thesis must include several key sections such as an introduction, a literature review, a methodology, results and a conclusion. The writing procedure ends when the thesis writer presents and defends orally their research findings and answers questions posed by an academic jury, who are most of the cases professors in the field. The oral defense assesses student’ ability to conduct independent research, analytical and public speaking skills, time management as well as their proficiency in using digital tools. For example, the speaker needs to prove to the academic jury that they are knowledgeable in detailed about their own research from the beginning to the end. In short, a student needs to

complete academic research and its oral defense to prove their understanding in the studied field.

Examples of **statistics**:

In cohort 2022, 45,46% of the students got graduated at the National University of Chimborazo¹. In my current cohort, I also need to write a thesis and defence it to achieve a college degree. The process of writing a thesis begins when a student selects a narrowed research topic that will contribute to the student's field of study. To do so, the student needs to write many drafts to refine their work until their thesis supervisor deems it to be acceptable according to the academic standards of the institution. Essentially, the thesis must include several key sections such as an introduction, a literature review, a methodology, results and a conclusion. The writing procedure ends when the thesis writer presents and defends orally their research findings and answers questions posed by an academic jury, who are most of the cases professors in the field. The oral defense assesses student' ability to conduct independent research, analytical and public speaking skills, time management as well as their proficiency in using digital tools. For example, the speaker needs to prove to the academic jury that they are knowledgeable in detailed about their own research from the beginning to the end. In short, a student needs to complete academic research and its oral defense to prove their understanding in the studied field.

Examples of **a description of a person or a thing**:

Completing a thesis is considered as a pinnacle of resilience and creativity achievement. Particularly, I need to write a thesis and defence it to achieve a college degree. The process of writing a thesis begins when a student selects a narrowed research topic that will contribute to the student's field of study. To do so, the student needs to write many drafts to refine their work until their thesis supervisor deems it to be acceptable according to the academic standards of the institution. Essentially, the thesis must include several key sections such as an introduction, a literature review, a methodology, results and a conclusion. The writing procedure ends when the thesis writer presents and defends orally their research findings and answers questions posed by an academic jury, who are most of the cases professors in the field. The oral defense

¹ Informe gestion institucional 2022,
https://www.unach.edu.ec/images/galeriajulio/evidencias_2022/documentos/Informe%20Rendicio%CC%81n%20de%20Cuentas%202022%20-%20Compromisos%202023_compressed.pdf

assesses student' ability to conduct independent research, analytical and public speaking skills, time management as well as their proficiency in using digital tools. For example, the speaker needs to prove to the academic jury that they are knowledgeable in detailed about their own research from the beginning to the end. In short, a student needs to complete academic research and its oral defense to prove their understanding in the studied field.

Examples of a **question**:

Does the writing and defending of a thesis require dedication, critical thinking and effective communication? Certainly, I need to write a thesis and defence it to achieve a college degree. The process of writing a thesis begins when a student selects a narrowed research topic that will contribute to the student's field of study. To do so, the student needs to write many drafts to refine their work until their thesis supervisor deems it to be acceptable according to the academic standards of the institution. Essentially, the thesis must include several key sections such as an introduction, a literature review, a methodology, results and a conclusion. The writing procedure ends when the thesis writer presents and defends orally their research findings and answers questions posed by an academic jury, who are most of the cases professors in the field. The oral defense assesses student' ability to conduct independent research, analytical and public speaking skills, time management as well as their proficiency in using digital tools. For example, the speaker needs to prove to the academic jury that they are knowledgeable in detailed about their own research from the beginning to the end. In short, a student needs to complete academic research and its oral defense to prove their understanding in the studied field.

Examples of a **metaphor**:

Writing and defending a thesis is like climbing a mountain, with many drafts as steep ascents and the oral defense the final push to the peak. As a university student, I need to write a thesis and defence it to achieve a college degree. The process of writing a thesis begins when a student selects a narrowed research topic that will contribute to the student's field of study. To do so, the student needs to write many drafts to refine their work until their thesis supervisor deems it to be acceptable according to the academic standards of the institution. Essentially, the thesis must include several key sections such as an introduction, a literature review, a methodology, results and a conclusion. The writing procedure ends when the thesis writer presents and defends orally their research findings and answers questions posed by an academic jury, who are most of the cases professors in the field. The oral defense assesses

student' ability to conduct independent research, analytical and public speaking skills, time management as well as their proficiency in using digital tools. For example, the speaker needs to prove to the academic jury that they are knowledgeable in detailed about their own research from the beginning to the end. In short, a student needs to complete academic research and its oral defense to prove their understanding in the studied field.

Examples of **an anecdote**:

I have often heard that confidence for the oral defense comes only after writing countless drafts and receiving approval from your thesis supervisor. Nowadays, I need to write a thesis and defence it to achieve a college degree. The process of writing a thesis begins when a student selects a narrowed research topic that will contribute to the student's field of study. To do so, the student needs to write many drafts to refine their work until their thesis supervisor deems it to be acceptable according to the academic standards of the institution. Essentially, the thesis must include several key sections such as an introduction, a literature review, a methodology, results and a conclusion. The writing procedure ends when the thesis writer presents and defends orally their research findings and answers questions posed by an academic jury, who are most of the cases professors in the field. The oral defense assesses student' ability to conduct independent research, analytical and public speaking skills, time management as well as their proficiency in using digital tools. For example, the speaker needs to prove to the academic jury that they are knowledgeable in detailed about their own research from the beginning to the end. In short, a student needs to complete academic research and its oral defense to prove their understanding in the studied field.

Examples of **a contradictory statement**:

Some students argue that writing and defending a thesis prioritize institutional requirements in its formality and structure rather than enhancing students' creativity and true academic knowledge. To prove that I need to write a thesis and defence it to achieve a college degree. The process of writing a thesis begins when a student selects a narrowed research topic that will contribute to the student's field of study. To do so, the student needs to write many drafts to refine their work until their thesis supervisor deems it to be acceptable according to the academic standards of the institution. Essentially, the thesis must include several key sections such as an introduction, a literature review, a methodology, results and a conclusion. The writing procedure ends when the thesis writer presents and defends orally their research findings and answers questions posed by an academic jury, who are most of the cases

professors in the field. The oral defense assesses student' ability to conduct independent research, analytical and public speaking skills, time management as well as their proficiency in using digital tools. For example, the speaker needs to prove to the academic jury that they are knowledgeable in detailed about their own research from the beginning to the end. In short, a student needs to complete academic research and its oral defense to prove their understanding in the studied field.

Examples of a **joke**:

Why did the student bring a ladder to the thesis defense? Because they heard it was time to take their research to the next level. Academically speaking, I need to write a thesis and defence it to achieve a college degree. The process of writing a thesis begins when a student selects a narrowed research topic that will contribute to the student's field of study. To do so, the student needs to write many drafts to refine their work until their thesis supervisor deems it to be acceptable according to the academic standards of the institution. Essentially, the thesis must include several key sections such as an introduction, a literature review, a methodology, results and a conclusion. The writing procedure ends when the thesis writer presents and defends orally their research findings and answers questions posed by an academic jury, who are most of the cases professors in the field. The oral defense assesses student' ability to conduct independent research, analytical and public speaking skills, time management as well as their proficiency in using digital tools. For example, the speaker needs to prove to the academic jury that they are knowledgeable in detailed about their own research from the beginning to the end. In short, a student needs to complete academic research and its oral defense to prove their understanding in the studied field.

Next, watch the following video and take notes as much as you can, so you can understand the speaker's message what a hook is.

<https://youtu.be/g7BcbDXTG1s>

Let's conquer your academic writing skill by completing your academic paragraph on formation. On your paragraph you must summarize the main points of your read article. Before writing your paragraph, I recommend you to build up your paragraph by following these steps.

1. Read your reading article. Employ the two skimming and scanning techniques. Include sticky notes and vocabulary flash cards.

Then, use brainstorming technique in order to identify and prioritize your ideas. A link has been provided to watch a video about how to work on brainstorm technique.
<https://youtu.be/EmS61qHyuaA>

2. One of your ideas must turn into a topic sentence and its controlling idea. After doing so, choose which one may be your supporting ideas.
 3. Afterwards you have a clear picture which ideas will form your paragraph, include a hook, and close your paragraph with a closing sentence.
 4. All of your statements must be joined by using connecting words or linking words.
 5. Finally, do a double check to detect possible mistakes, mainly grammar structures, spelling and uncoherent sentences among others.
 6. Share your sticky notes, flash cards, and your academic paragraph with your classmates.
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