

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

8<sup>th</sup> grade Writing/ Mr. G.

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### The Conclusion Paragraph: Hooks

A focus on the Bookend Hook



If the purpose of a hook is to grab the reader’s attention, why do we use a hook at the beginning of a concluding paragraph?

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What hooks do we have to wrap our gift? List all of the hooks you can think of.

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Yesterday, we said the bookend hook was \_\_\_\_\_

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Let’s look at an example:

#### Intro Paragraph:

Listless crowds yawned as the home team thrashed the boards. Another jump shot, another ‘swish,’ and another unenthusiastic response.

The crowd of three students thumbed the keys on their cell phones. Mr. Taylor, a cheerleading squad would rally the teams, generate revenue, and most importantly, invoke school spirit.

What’s a school without school spirit?

#### Conclusion Paragraph:

Mr. Taylor, you may recall a grim description of an insipid crowd at a basketball game. Now I want you to picture the same game: Crowds of students and parents respond to the cheers of the peppy students. Flush with enthusiasm, they yell, “Score,” as the basketball team takes the ball to the hoop. Painted blue and gold faces rally behind the Amistad boys as they claim a win.

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As you can see, to make this work, you have to do two things:

1. Recall the vivid-description from the introductory paragraph.

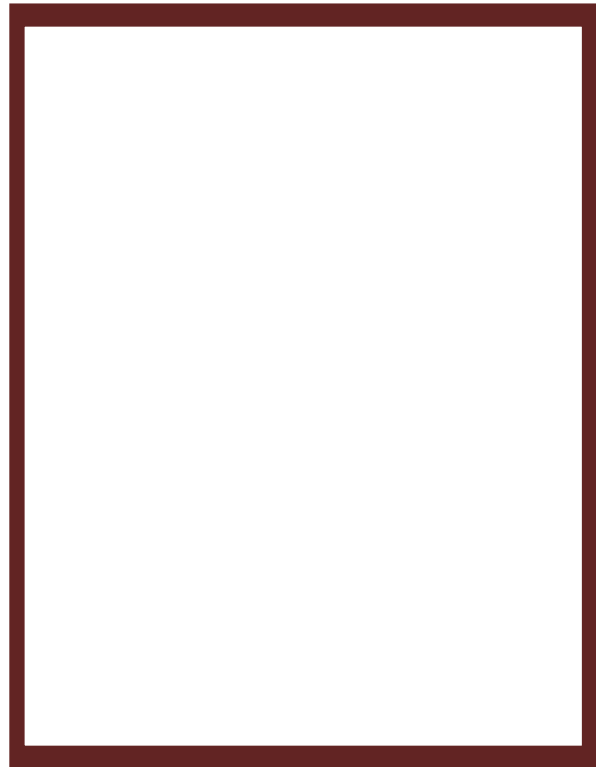
Ex. Mr. Taylor, you may recall a grim description of an insipid crowd at a basketball game.

2. Provide a contrasting vivid-description from the introductory paragraph.

Ex. Now I want you to picture the same game: Crowds of students and parents respond to the cheers of the peppy students. Flush with enthusiasm, they yell, "Score," as the basketball team takes the ball to the hoop. Painted blue and gold faces rally behind the Amistad boys, as they claim a win.

Let's Try:

Esteemed members of the Mayor's Council, when last I drove by Inglewood Park to play with my three-year-old niece, I was greeted with this: graffiti-covered brick walls surrounded the swing-set in disrepair. The abundance of discarded McDonalds wrappers and cups rolled across the sandbox. The playground was barren and unkempt, appearing as though time had left it for dead. This is not acceptable nor is it the kind of place I want to take my three-year-old niece.



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Your Turn:

Scrounging around for food, Dirk, a thirteen-year-old boy comes across a bitten apple. He feels he's struck gold until he remembers that he has a younger brother and sister to feed. As the bitter night air nips at his exposed flesh, he moves on to the next dumpster. Mayor, Desteffano the aforementioned situation is but one example of the unjust conditions the city of New Haven has created for the homeless. I ask of you to consider opening another shelter in the downtown area. It will provide shelter, motivation for rehabilitation, and most importantly, food

"Mommy." Screams. You run as quickly as possible, hoping that the chills up your spine are unnecessary. Hoping your little one isn't in pain.

"Mommy." The screams grow louder. You're close now. Your child comes into view. They're lying on the street, helpless next to their bicycle.

As you get closer, you hope not to see—Blood.

You see blood. It's coming from their head. As you reach into your back pocket to pull out your cell to call 911, you think to yourself: *If only I'd made him wear his helmet.*

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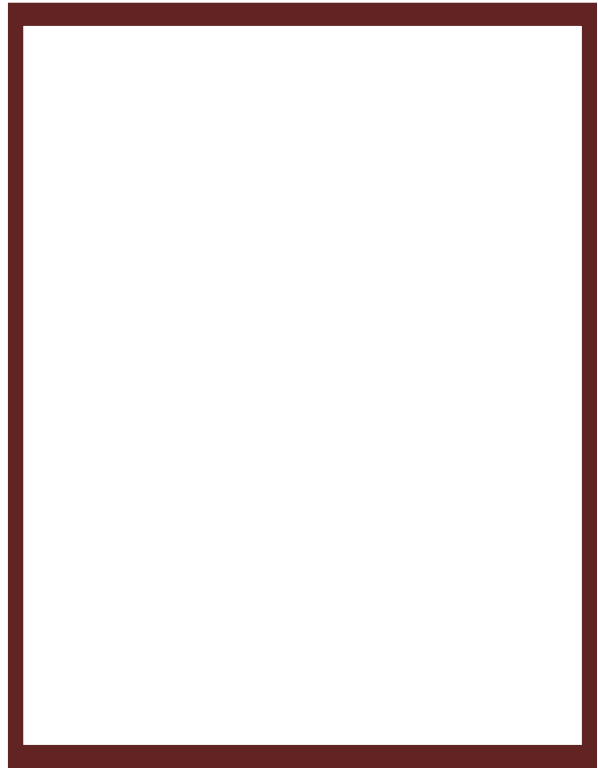
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Becky is texting Jose, Josh is instant-messaging Mark, and Dad is playing online Wii with Mr. Jacobson from down the street, and yet no one is really communicating. People of the World, when did we decide it was okay Facebook a wedding invitation? When did it become okay to receive a 'Happy Bday' text message from your best friend? When did the art of communication become adulterated by cold technology? Put down your phones, turn off your games and computers, and say 'Hello.'



What are the two pieces required to create a book-end hook for a conclusion paragraph?

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Topic: People don't drink enough water.

Directions: In the space provided, choose a hook-type, and write a hook for this issue.

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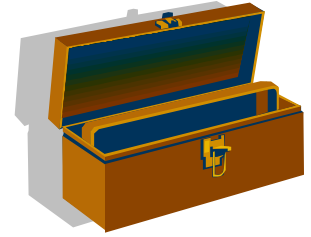
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### Persuasive Writing: Arguments Review

Draw the Lawyer's Tool Box and label the tools:



Why is it important to use three different tools from the tool box?

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Do your arguments have to come from the tool box?

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If you had to write about helmet safety, circle the three arguments, from the list below, you would use.

People should wear helmets because they keep you safe.

People should wear helmets because they can be stylish.

People should wear helmets so they won't get brain damage.

People should wear helmets because they will save your parent's money on hospital bills.

People should wear helmets because they are cheap.

People should wear helmets because they come in different colors.

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If you had to write about helmet safety, circle the three arguments, from the list below, you would use.

People should not wear helmets because they'll be made fun of.

People should not wear helmets because they can distract the rider.

People should not wear helmets because if they never get injured, they'll never grow stronger.

People should not wear helmets because helmets are for sissies.

People should not wear helmets because they're expensive.

People should not wear helmets because the strap could strangle you, and you could die.



Generate a list of arguments for the following topic: Students should take a dance class.

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Now write an introductory knockout paragraph for the same topic: Students should take dance lessons.

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