

L4 – Reading & Writing

Lesson 1

Today, we will...

1. Go over the syllabus
2. Discuss what you've read
3. Talk about argumentative essays and learn how to write a hook



Syllabus

The goal of this class is...

1. Read about a variety of subject areas, such as culture and science.
2. Learn to analyze and think critically when reading.
3. Learn how to write an argumentative essay and use literary devices in writing.

Your grade is based on...

Vocabulary Quiz (10%) – You will be tested on vocabulary from your assigned reading material.

In-class Discussion (25%) – You will be asked to answer questions relating to your assigned reading material.

Writing Assignments (40%) – You will complete 4 short essays(20%) and weekly writing assignments (20%).

Student Teaching assignment(25%) – You will teach the class based on an article of your choice.

4 mandatory essays

学术英语读写课程Essay提交流程

1. 登录校内瀚海教学网 course.ustc.edu.cn
2. 用统一身份认证登录。
3. 进入我的课程，进入“英语写作”课程页面。
4. 进入“作业”版块，查看四次作业，在相应版块下提交word版本作业。
5. 若找不到作业版块，可进入QQ群891360487咨询。

Create a QQ group



Argumentative Essay (Hook)

An argumentative essay is...

An essay that takes a position on a controversial issue and tries to present evidence in favor of or against that position.

For Example...

Should vaccinations be required for students to attend public school?

Should there be laws against using cell phones while driving?

The structure of an argumentative essay is...

Introduction:	Thesis Statement & hook
Main Body:	Claim & evidence (Persuasion)
Opposition:	Opposition & refutation (Concession)
Conclusion:	Summary

A hook is...

The line or lines written to lure a reader or listener in and make them want to learn more. It's an introduction that's meant to grab hold of people's attention.

For Example...

"Happy families are all alike; every unhappy family is unhappy in its own way."

Anna Karenina by Leo Tolstoy

5 ways of using a hook...

1. Use quotations: Feature someone prominent.

For example, if the argument is that traveling is good for you.

"Travel is rich with learning opportunities, and the ultimate souvenir is a broader perspective."

Rick Steves

5 ways of using a hook...

2. Include Statistics: Feature striking statistics.

For example, if the argument is that drinking is bad for you.

According to a recent report from the CDC, alcohol poisoning kills six people every day in the United States. That same report also reveals there are over 15 million people currently struggling with alcohol use disorder.

5 ways of using a hook...

3. Pose Questions: Feature a thought-provoking questions.
Use open-ended not yes/no questions.

For example, if the argument is that smoking is bad.

“Why do people smoke even though they know it’s bad for them?”

5 ways of using a hook...

4. Metaphor or simile: Engage reader to think differently.

For example, if the argument is that blogs are good for business.

A business blog is like a magnet pulling clients to a company.

5 ways of using a hook...

5. Tell Anecdotes: Make sure the story directly connects with your topic.

For example, if the argument is that visiting foreign places can be full of surprises.

I got off the train and pulled my luggage behind me. A cab pulled up to the curb, and the driver got out. He lifted my luggage and said, "Miss, I'm just going to put your stuff in the boot." I didn't know what he meant until I saw him open the car's trunk. Then I realized the boot means car trunk. I got in the cab, wondering how many other words would be different in England.

What kind of hook is used ?

Put Your Faith in Science

In-class writing assignment

Your weekly writing assignment will
be completed on a Tencent Doc.

In-class writing assignment – Hook

The Argument

As people rely more and more on technology to solve problems, the ability of humans to think for themselves will surely deteriorate.

For Example...

What would you do with your time, if everything you had to do before can be done by AI, such as cleaning the house, doing the laundry, or even cooking?

4

Homework

1. Reading Assignment:

HOW TO STOP GUN VIOLENCE
ABORTION AFTER THE TEXAS LAW

2. Writing Assignment:

Finish the hook



Thanks!

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