

# Frog Hooks

Great alternatives to expository introductions, hooks and leads

*“Hi, my name is Joey and I’m going to tell you about...”* This is a truly boring beginning for a report, an essay, or piece of writing that is intended to be informative or based on research the writer has done. You shouldn’t begin your writing this way.

There are more interesting ways to begin an expository or informative piece of writing. Try a couple of techniques with a different topic you have researched, and see what technique works best for you!

<p><u>Technique one:</u> Start with a short (four- or five-word maximum) effective sentence:</p> <p><b>Frogs have fascinated countless scientists.</b></p>	<p><u>Technique two:</u> Start with a creative metaphor or simile:</p> <p><b>Frog tongues are as sticky as toasted marshmallows.</b></p>
<p><u>Technique three:</u> Start with an interesting question for the reader to ponder:</p> <p><b>Can you believe they call a group of frogs an army?</b></p>	<p><u>Technique four:</u> Start with a subordinate clause or other complex sentence form:</p> <p><b>Although it seems disgusting to us, frogs eat their own freshly shed skin at least once a week.</b></p>
<p><u>Technique five:</u> Start with a riddle:</p> <p><b>What’s sticky, slimy and can jump more than 20 times its body length? A frog, of course.</b></p>	<p><u>Technique seven:</u> Capture a feeling or emotion before writing your thesis statement</p> <p><b>After kissing over thirty disgusting frogs, I realized that none of them could turn into a prince...heavy sigh. Frogs aren’t princes. They’re amphibians.</b></p>
<p><u>Technique seven:</u> Start with an interesting or unusual fact.</p> <p><b>Some frogs can jump more the 20 times their own height. Some can even jump farther!</b></p>	<p><u>Technique eight:</u> Start with a comparison.</p> <p><b>Some people have trouble telling the difference between frogs and toads. One quick way to tell them apart is that frogs have moist skin while toads have dry skin.</b></p>