**Timed Writing Hooks**

1. **Set the Scene**

Create a hypothetical world for your reader by creating an imaginary scene or event for them to picture.

*Imagine…*

*Picture…*

*Visualize…*

1. **Rhetorical Question**

Ask a thought provoking question about your topic. You could simply turn your topic into a question. You can choose to answer it or leave it unanswered. Both ways are acceptable.

*Do kids face safety issues in public schools?*

*Have you ever dreamed of creating a new television show?*

*What rings a lot, is pretty tiny, but causes lots of drama in schools? Cell phones, of course.*

*What television show would you create it you had the chance? For me, it would be a reality show.*

1. **Anecdote**

Share a personal story or experience. Remember—the readers don’t know you. It could be totally made up!

*I remember… When I was younger… Years ago…*

1. **Fact/ Data**

Share some facts or statistics. This is tricky for timed writing. The scorers know that you don’t have access to data or a computer during the times writing. You don’t want it to be obvious that you make up crazy numbers. Stick with facts that use generic details.

*The number of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_* ***increases*** *each decade.*

*The rate of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_* ***decreases*** *each second.*

*The reports of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_* ***goes down*** *each month.*

*The amount of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_* ***goes up*** *each day.*

1. **Three. Words. Only.**

This is when simple lists three words as standalone sentences. You can use three different words or do a repeater (the same word three times). This is choice that shows PIZZAZZ and writing chops. This MUST go first—never last or in the middle.

*No. No. No. Unfair. Unfair. Unfair. Cars. Bikes. Trains.*

1. **Quote It!**

This used to sound boring, but it’s not! This is a chance to show your personality and voice. Quote a song lyric, a famous saying, something that your parents or teachers always told you, or a poem or book. This usually requires stating the quote and adding a second sentence to explain or clarify. Formula: STATE THE *QUOTE. STATE why the quote is significant.*

*“Never give up.” I have seen that quote printed on so many posters before. It really makes sense right now.*

*“I took the road less travelled.” That famous Frost quote guides my choices every day.*

*The rapper, Drake, had it right when he said, “No new friends.” I have learned that this quotation is valuable when thinking about loyalty.*

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