Writing an Opening...

- Hook your reader
- Address your prompt
- Introduce the work you are analyzing/TAG
- Preview what is to come in a thesis statement
Types of Expository to Explain Why Openings

• Rhetorical Question –
  • Can you imagine going through each day without being able to read any of the words around you?

• Present a Startling Fact –
  • Even though we spend billions of dollars each year on special programs in our schools, we still have students who do not know how to read.

• Quote a Respected Source –
  • Although her books were written in Braille, Helen Keller said that when she learned to read, the whole world was opened up to her.
  • Pablo Picasso once stated that “every act of creation is first an act of destruction.”
Types of Expository to Explain Why Openings

• Use a Literary Device (simile/metaphor) –
  • Reading is the pathway to worlds beyond our own.

• Make a General Statement –
  • It is nearly impossible to go through a day in life without the need to use your reading skills.

• Pose a Challenging Question –
  • Would you be willing to devote some of your time to teaching an adult to read?
Simile samples:

Jealousy is like a backpack because it gets heavy carrying it around, it’s hard to zip up, and everyone can see you wearing it.

Trust is like a video game because there are many levels to it, it requires practice, and it’s hard to repair once it’s broken.

First love was like a scar, because although it would fade, it would never completely disappear.
Step 1: Brainstorm your big idea

Step 2: Brainstorm other objects that share the same characteristics
Step 1: Brainstorm your big idea

leadership

- influential
- powerful
- cooperative
- followers
- weak
- corrupt
- controlling
- fear
- loyalty

Step 2: Brainstorm other objects that share the same characteristics

- TV
- Social media
- Junk food
- Video games
**Step 1: Brainstorm your big idea**

- Lacking depth of emotions
- Devoid of life
- Doesn’t care
- Devoid of character
- Lack real existence

**Step 2: Brainstorm other objects that share the same characteristics**

- Abandoned house
- An unmarked tombstone
Step 1: Brainstorm your big idea

- Lacking depth of emotions
- devoid of life
- devoid of character
- Lack real existence

Apathy

Step 2: Brainstorm other objects that share the same characteristics

- Abandoned house
- An unmarked tombstone

SIMILE: Apathy is like an abandoned house because each are devoid of character and life.
SIMILE: Apathy, like an abandoned house, is devoid of character and life.
SIMILE: Apathy is like an unmarked tombstone since both mark an existence, but lack any life.
**Step 1:** Brainstorm your big idea

**Step 2:** Brainstorm other objects that share the same characteristics
Writing your Opening...

- Hook your reader – Use the literary device. Use the simile you created.
- Bridge to/Address your prompt – transition from your simile to the prompt
- Introduce the work you are analyzing/TAG – Kurt Vonnegut’s short story, “Harrison Bergeron” and Margaret Peterson Haddix’s novel Among the Hidden
- Preview what is to come in a thesis statement – What is the focus for your paper? Use your partial multi-flow map. What did you select?
Writing an Opening

- Hook your reader – Use the literary device. Use the simile you created.
- Bridge/Address your prompt – transition from your simile to the prompt. How do these ideas connect?
- Introduce the work you are analyzing/TAG – Kurt Vonnegut’s short story “Harrison Bergeron” and Margaret Peterson Haddix’s novel Among the Hidden
- Preview what is to come in a thesis statement – What is the focus for your paper? Use your partial multi-flow map.

Control is like a dog on a short leash because, like the person who holds the leash, it has the power to determine one’s course, the power to limit one’s possibilities, and the power to inflict consequences. This idea similar to Kurt Vonnegut’s short story, “Harrison Bergeron” and Margaret Peterson Haddix’s novel, Among the Hidden because the leaders of both sought control of their people through the laws and subsequent punishments imposed. Both pieces of literature can serve as a warning of what an all too powerful government can become when control becomes its sole function and motivation.
Writing an Opening...

- **Hook your reader** – Use the literary device. Use the simile you created.

- **Bridge/Address your prompt** – transition from your simile to the prompt: Similarly, likewise, in the same way. How do these ideas connect?

- **Introduce the work you are analyzing/TAG** – Kurt Vonnegut’s short story “Harrison Bergeron” and Margaret Peterson Haddix’s novel Among the Hidden

- **Preview what is to come in a thesis statement** – What is the focus for your paper? Use your partial multi-flow map.

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This idea is like/ Similarly, [big idea] reveals itself in Kurt Vonnegut’s short story, “Harrison Bergeron” or Margaret Peterson Haddix’s novel, Among the Hidden because/ through ______________________________. Both pieces of literature can serve as a warning of what an all too powerful government can become when __________.