



**Directions:** Circle the hook in each sample introduction paragraph and underline the main topic sentence.

Did you know that 1 minute may be all it takes to save the life of a child—your child? Accidents kill nearly 8,000 children under age 15 each year. And for every fatality, 42 more children are admitted to hospitals for treatment. Yet such deaths and injuries can be avoided by good parental supervision, safety checks, and good communication.<sup>1</sup>

Did you shower yesterday? We Americans are a clean people. We bathe or shower regularly and spend billions of dollars each year on soaps and deodorants to wash away or disguise our dirt and odor. Yet cleanliness is a relatively recent habit with us. From the time of the Puritans until the turn of the twentieth century, bathing in the United States was rare, considered "high-class", and sometimes even illegal. <sup>2</sup>

Can your home or office computer make you sick, blind, or dumb? The answer is: probably not. Nevertheless, reports of side effects relating to computer use should be examined. Although little conclusive evidence exists to establish a casual link between computer use and health problems, it has been reported that computers can cause birth defects, eye complaints, and postural difficulties.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> grammar.ccc.commnet.edu/grammar/intros.htm

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> The Little, Brown Handbook. 1998.