

Non-Listening # 3: Happy Hooking LE 25

[Relationship Skills & Healthy Relationships](#)

To Teachers:

1. If you have not already done so, please review the Introduction to Teaching Healthy Relationships and Relationship Skills ([Relationship Skills & Healthy Relationships](#)) or suggestions on teaching SEL Skills, processing learning experiences, applying skills in real-life situations, and assessing, evaluating, and grading SEL Skills.
2. If you have not already done so, please review the Listening & Inquiry Reading ([Relationship Skills & Healthy Relationships](#)).
3. This learning experience is best done as a follow-up learning experience to the Non-Listening Learning Experience # 1 ([Relationship Skills & Healthy Relationships](#)) and/or Non-Listening Learning Experience # 2: Two Ships Passing in the Night. ([Relationship Skills & Healthy Relationships](#)).
4. This learning experience aims to demonstrate how individuals interrupt a conversation by hooking into a word or phrase to bring it back to them before the speaker can finish sharing.

Procedure/Directions:

1. Ask students to think of something exciting that happened to them recently or something they are looking forward to doing.
2. Next, tell them you will get them into groups (of 6-8). One group member begins discussing: "Something exciting that happened to them recently" or "Something exciting they are looking forward to doing." When another group member hears a word that reminds them of something in their life, they will "hook" into the conversation and bring it back to them by using a "hooking phrase." The second group member talks about the topic until a third member "hooks" into the story, and so on. Continue the process for several minutes.
3. Before beginning, brainstorm a list of hooking phrases they have heard and write them on the board. Examples may include:
 - Speaking of that...
 - That reminds me...
 - Glad you mentioned that...
 - Oh, right, I remember the time...
 - Just as you were saying...
 - That's like...
 - Oh, that's nothing! Let me tell you...

You may wish to role-play with a group of students in front of the class or, to save time, only role-play it with 6-8 students and then have the discussion.

Processing Questions

When they have finished, ask them to think of a time when they were sharing something important, and a person or persons hooked in and took the conversation away from them and brought it back to them.

Questions include:

- How did it feel when someone hooked into the conversation, took it away from you, and brought the conversation back to them? Why did you feel that way?
- What did you do or want to do with your feelings?

Follow-Up Learning Experiences

After completing this learning experience, you could go directly to the Listening Learning Experiences ([Relationship Skills & Healthy Relationships](#)) or do the Non-Listening # 2 Ships Passing in the Night ([Relationship Skills & Healthy Relationships](#)) and/or Non-Listening # 1 LE ([Relationship Skills & Healthy Relationships](#)) if you have not already done so.

Attribution/Source: This learning experience was edited from the “Happy Hooker” activity in *Personalizing Education: Values Clarification & Beyond* by Leland W. Howe and Mary Martha Howe, pages 52-53.