**Expository Essay Hooks**

**“The world is a book and those who do not travel read only one page.” – St. Augustine**

**1. Experience or Anecdote (with full intro)**

**I could have picked anywhere in the United States for my trip last summer, but I went to Tennessee. I didn’t know a soul there, and I hadn’t heard very much about the state either. I could have gone back to Florida, or spent some time relaxing on the beach at home. Instead, I hiked in the Smoky Mountains, learned about the history of country music in Nashville, and saw real Blues musicians perform in Memphis. According to St. Augustine, “The world is a book and those who do not travel read only one page.”** St. Augustine compared the world to a book because people gain knowledge from their travels just as they do from reading books. People who choose not to travel, or who go back to the same familiar places, read only one page of the book. They limit their ability to learn from the world around them. When people make the choice to see the world and to “read” more pages of the book, they gain rich life experiences, which can be seen in the book, The Hobbit, by J.R.R. Tolkien, and in my own experiences in Tennessee last summer.

**2. Descriptive opening**

**Narrow, crooked cobblestone streets, tall, chalk-white arches and columns, cathedrals with ceilings so high it is hard to imagine they were designed without computers and built before motorized cranes were even a possibility. In America, an old building might be one hundred or two hundred years old. In Europe, it might be thousands. Without visiting other countries, Americans might not even realize what “old” really means.** According to St. Augustine, “The world is a book and those who do not travel read only one page.”

**3. Strong statement that expresses an idea from the quote.**

**If you limit yourself, you limit your experiences.** According to St. Augustine, “The world is a book and those who do not travel read only one page.”