



Writing a good first sentence

CAPS Statement

Writing & Presenting

Writes a simple story with a frame:

- Writes an appropriate opening sentence
- Writes about events logically
- Writes an appropriate ending

Note

An author needs to grab the reader's attention from the beginning. This can be done with the very first sentence.

Example:

- The man entered the room.
- Crash! The door broke as the angry man charged into the room.

Which story sounds more exciting? Which one would you prefer to read?

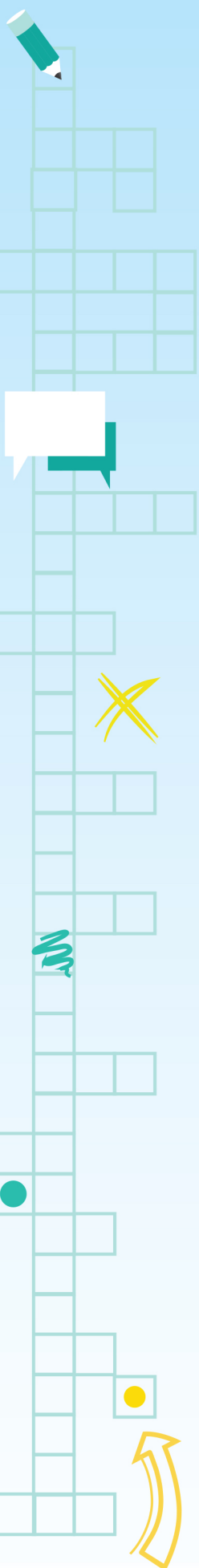
Activity 1

Before you write a story, plan it using a mind map or a story planner. Mind maps and story plans do not need full sentences or punctuation. Make brief notes by writing down key words and ideas.

Here are some story ideas to choose from or you can make up one of your own:

- Meg Mouse's most memorable moment.
- What if I were a teacher?
- The biggest surprise.
- The super-duper secret.

Setting	When does your story take place (happen?)
Characters	Who is in your story? Are they humans? Animals? Cars? What are their names?



Plot

Introduction: What happens in the beginning? How do we meet the characters?

What happens to the characters in the middle of the story?

The conclusion: How does the story end? What happens to each character?

Activity 2

Use the ideas from your story planner to write a short story.

Paragraph 1: The introduction, with an attention-grabbing opening sentence.

Paragraph 2: The main part of your story. What happens to your characters?

Paragraph 3: The conclusion. Where you explain what happened in the end.

Teacher Tip

This is where vocabulary building is so important. The bigger your learners' vocabulary, the better they can write.
Encourage learners to use their personal dictionaries.

