

Sentence Openers for all your writing.
(Write sentence opener number in margin)

You must have **one of each** of these openers in every paragraph you write.
Each paragraph should be **double spaced**. Sentence openers should always be indicated by writing the correct sentence opener number in the margin.

1. **Subject opener:** A sentence that starts with a subject or has a subject near the beginning of the sentence.

The tortoise felt confident and challenged the hare to a race.

You must put the number of the opener in the margin next to the sentence.

He was a quaint little man with a strange green suit.
One cloudy morning, a powerful tiger was slinking through the forest.
A girl ate her breakfast.
Hannah played the trumpet.

2. **Prepositional sentence opener:** These are words that introduce phrases that always contain either a noun or a pronoun (use your list of prepositions to help you).

In a flurry, the shocked hare dashed towards the finish line.

Notice the comma after the opening phrase

Up above the village, Peter sat and wondered how to save the Queen.

Again notice the comma after the opening phrase

Since last year, killer bees have been found as far north as Arizona.

3. **“ly” Opener:** an “ly” adverb can be used to open a sentence (use your list of “ly” adverbs to help you find a suitable adverb).

Calmly, the triumphant tortoise placed his foot over the finish line.

Notice the comma after the adverb.

Patiently, the athlete waited for the start of the 100 metres.

4. **“ing” Opener**: a verb with an “ing” suffix (ending) can be used to open a sentence.

Shrieking with fear, Peter scrambled to evade the rabid wolf.

Notice the comma after the opening phrase

Sprinting quickly, Tamara grabbed the trophy.

5. **Clausal Opener**: Use any of the clausal starter words (www.asia) to start a sentence (when, where, while, as, since, although, if).

Although she was hungry, she decided not to eat the last doughnut.

Notice the comma **that always** comes after the clausal opener

Since the tortoise knew he was slow, he boldly challenged the hare to a race.
If you use a variety of sentence openers, your writing will improve.

6. **VSS** : Very Short Sentence = 5 words or less)

The lion bellowed and thundered.

Notice that this sentence also starts with a subject opener too!

Running, the thief escaped.

“Thief!” he screeched.