

# Openings for Narratives

Ways to start a story- When you write a story it is important to make an impact right from the start. No one wants to read a story any further when it is boring at the beginning!

- Catch the reader's attention
- Make the opening dramatic
- Make the reader want to read on
- Take the reader straight into the story

## Start with a question

Have you ever...

### 3 questions start (Haunted school example)

Is the haunted school the one with.....

Is the haunted school the one with.....

Is the haunted school the one with.....

No, it's the one I'm in right now and here's my story!

(Describe using all senses)

## Surprise opening

Marley was dead...to begin with!

## Flash-forward

He walked across the road. Little did he know it would be his last walk across the road!

## 3 -ed ending words

Frightened, terrified, horrified, they ran from the alien.

The invasion had not just come yet.

## Flashback

Could start with a cliff hanger

Add ellipse mark

State how much time is reversed through, eg two days earlier

- ❖ Describe the setting: Describe where the story is taking place.
- ❖ • Describe a character: Describe the main person in the story, remember how you describe them must have an impact on the story. E.g. "Jim was an unlucky boy..." Jim being unlucky must have an impact on the story line, e.g. Jim loses his wallet etc...
- ❖ • Action: Straight into the excitement, characters are doing something
- ❖ • Dialogue: The characters are speaking to each other.

## Challenge

Can you open with something special- a question? Connective (eg although), or an exclamation (eg Bang!)