

Year 4 English Distance Teaching and Learning

Week beginning: 1st June 2020

Lesson 4		
Learning Intention WALT: write an exciting story opening	Key Vocabulary: Expanded noun phrase Fronted adverbial Simple sentence Compound sentence Complex sentence	What you will need: Pen Lined paper/English book Challenges Pencil Ruler Lesson 4 video

Starter



Look at the picture.
 You have 1 min to describe what you think is happening.

What do you think?

Discuss these questions or write down some ideas

Why are the crows gathering?
Who is the girl in the picture?
What is she carrying?
Where has it come from?
Why has she taken it?
What does it contain?
Who does it belong to?
How do the crows and the little girl feel?
Where is she going?

Up level these sentences:

The girl ran.
She carried the egg.
The crows chased her.
She felt scared.

(see mark scheme for suggestions)

Story Opening

Today, we are going to be writing a story opening to go with the picture in the starter

A good opening will make the reader want to read on.

An exciting opening will tantalise the reader with the idea of who, when, where or what is happening (or going to happen)

How can stories open?

- Describing a character
- Describing the setting
- Beginning with an action
- Beginning with dialogue (talking)

An example of a story opening that we have looked at before

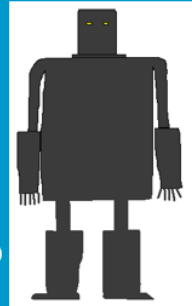
The Coming of the Iron Man by Ted Hughes

The Iron Man came to the top of the cliff.

How far had he walked? Nobody knows. Where had he come from? Nobody knows. How was he made? Nobody knows.

Taller than a house, the Iron Man stood at the top of the cliff, on the very brink, in the darkness.

The wind sang through his iron fingers. His great iron head, shaped like a dustbin lid but as big as a bedroom, turned to the right, then slowly turned to the left. His iron ears turned, this way, that way. He was hearing the sea. His eyes, like headlamps, glowed white, then red, then infra-red, searching the sea. Never before had the Iron Man seen the sea.



Independent Tasks

Challenge 1



Using the picture as a stimulus, write **one** paragraph of a story opening. Hook the reader in with a dramatic or exciting beginning. Help the reader to visualise the situation by providing description. Give a little information about the character and the setting

You may wish to start with the line:

The crows were gathering. The hunt was on...

Success Criteria

- Expanded noun phrases
- Fronted adverbials
- Range of sentence lengths and styles
- Subordinate clauses
- Subordinating conjunctions: if, since, although, where, as, when, after, before, until, because

Challenge 2



Using the picture as a stimulus, write **two** paragraphs of a story opening.

Hook the reader in with a dramatic or exciting beginning. Help the reader to visualise the situation by providing description. Give a little information about the character and the setting

You may wish to start with the line:

The crows were gathering. The hunt was on...

Success Criteria

- Expanded noun phrases
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- Range of sentence lengths and styles
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Challenge 3



Using the picture as a stimulus, write **two** paragraphs of a story opening.

Hook the reader in with a dramatic or exciting beginning. Help the reader to visualise the situation by providing description. Give a little information about the character and the setting

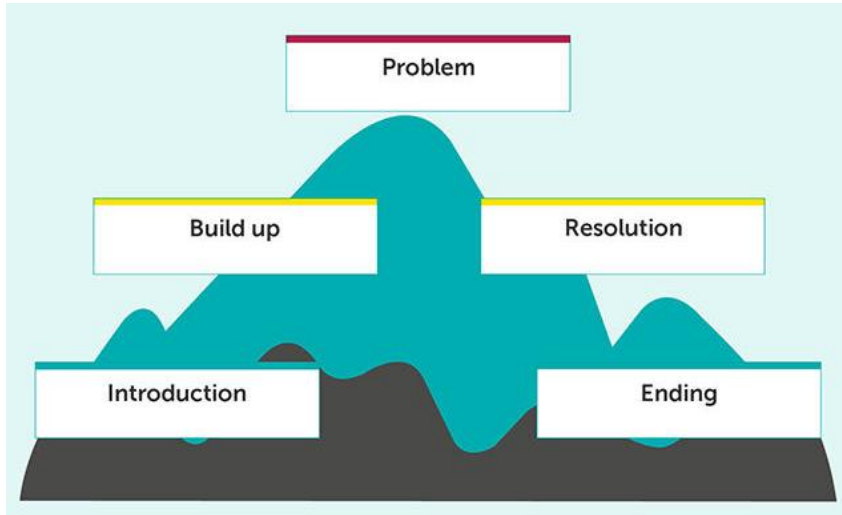
Once you have completed your two paragraphs of opening move the story on with a further paragraph to build-up the action.

Success Criteria

- Expanded noun phrases
- Fronted adverbials
- Range of sentence lengths and styles
- Subordinate clauses
- Subordinating conjunctions: if, since, although, where, as, when, after, before, until, because

Challenge X

Continue your story until the end. Remember a story will usually follow the outline of a mountain; an opening, a build-up, a problem, a resolution and an ending



Learning Review

Learning Review

A good opening will make the reader want to read on.

There are several different ways to open a story.

Using a variety of sentence lengths and extra detail with fronted adverbials, expanded noun phrases and subordinate clauses will all help to keep your reader's interest.

Read your story opening to a family member to see if they would want to read on and are excited by your opening.



Mark Scheme – Lesson 4

All of a sudden, the little girl ran through the long grass while clutching the egg.

Without stopping, she carried the egg up the hill.

In a mighty rage, the black crows chased her until she couldn't run any further.

Although she felt scared, she knew she couldn't give up.

Challenge 1

One paragraph, exciting writing that hooks the reader in. Include features from the success criteria

Success Criteria

- Expanded noun phrases
- Fronted adverbials
- Range of sentence lengths and styles
- Subordinate clauses
- Subordinating conjunctions: if, since, although, where, as, when, after, before, until, because

WAGOLL (What a good one looks like)

The crows were gathering. The hunt was on. Without looking back, Martha grabbed the gigantic egg and ran for all she was worth. She could feel the air gushing past her and hear the beating of their enormous wings as the huge, black crows took to the air. Suddenly, one flew low over her head, spreading its wings until it blocked the light from the sun and a cool shadow fell across her path. Where could she go for shelter? Her mind was racing.

Challenge 2

Two paragraphs, exciting writing that hooks the reader in. Include features from the success criteria

Success Criteria

- Expanded noun phrases
- Fronted adverbials
- Range of sentence lengths and styles

- Subordinate clauses
- Subordinating conjunctions: if, since, although, where, as, when, after, before, until, because

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Just ahead, Martha could make out a small group of fir trees. Although it wasn't far, she wondered if she could possibly make it. The crows were surrounding her now, swooping and diving, their rage filling the air. What was she thinking? Why on Earth had she thought she could do this by herself? Martha glanced to her left, there was a slight gap in between the birds and she made the most of it by darting to the side and sprinting towards the trees.

Challenge 3

Two paragraphs, exciting writing that hooks the reader in. Included features from the success criteria

Success Criteria

- Expanded noun phrases
- Fronted adverbials
- Range of sentence lengths and styles
- Subordinate clauses
- Subordinating conjunctions: if, since, although, where, as, when, after, before, until, because

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Then, a further paragraph building tension and moving the story on



Challenge X

A story written in paragraphs that follows the format of opening, build up, problem, resolution and ending.

Writing should excite the reader and want them to read on.

Success criteria should be met throughout.