



Handale Primary School

Sentence Openers

- A sentence opener should be taught to children and practised regularly.
- In English lessons devoted to reading comprehension skills, children can be taught to identify and highlight sentence openers in the text.
- To ensure that children are able to produce and create sentences during shared writing and in their own independent writing they must be taught how to write different types of sentences using these different sentence openers.
- These sentences must then be practised through a range of activities so that they can become internalised and automatic.
- Therefore, it is vital, that as staff we are aware of the specific sentence openers and refer to them using the same names and teach them using these names!

Sentence Opener	Example	Sentence example
Temporal Connectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First, • Finally, • After that, • Then, • Next , 	<p>First, melt the butter and pour it in the saucepan.</p> <p>Then we decided to go for a jog along the sea wall.</p>
Fronted Abverbial	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Suddenly, • Quickly, • Carefully, • Gracefully, • Furiously, 	<p>Quickly, he dashed down the street to catch the bus.</p> <p>Furiously, he stormed out of the classroom and slammed the door.</p>
Fronted Adverbial Phrase	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Later that day, • The next morning, • Shortly afterwards, • Before the sun came up, • All night long, 	<p>The next morning, Cane woke up feeling refreshed and energetic.</p> <p>All night long, she danced under the moonlit sky.</p>
Prepositional Phrase	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inside • Next to • Before • Over summer break, • After football, • 	<p>After football, we will go and get a pizza for tea.</p> <p>Over the summer break, Mary went on holiday to Turkey.</p>
'Ing' Clause	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sprinting • Washing • Smiling • Whispering • Sighing 	<p>Smiling to himself, Robin returned to the classroom.</p> <p>Whispering quietly, Amy asked the librarian for her favourite book.</p>
'Ed' Clause	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Worried • Exhausted • Terrified • Witnessed • Excited 	<p>Tired of asking, he found the answer himself.</p> <p>Frightened by the thunderstorm, the dog ran behind the couch.</p>



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Simile	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• As red as a cherry,• As pale as a ghost,• As funny as a clown,• As bright as the sun,• As blue as the ocean,	<p>As excited as a kitten, Rachel bounded onto the stage.</p> <p>As pale as a ghost, John returned from the cellar.</p>
Dialogue	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• “Help!”• “What is this?”• “Good morning everyone!”	<p>“My mum is so going to kill me!” thought George as he surveyed what was left of his house.</p> <p>“Quick, come here!” Mia yelled to all of her friends</p>
Clauses	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• When• Where• While• If• As• So• Although• Before• Because	<p>Before you go out to play, you must go and wash your hands.</p> <p>When we visit London, we will certainly take a trip to Buckingham palace.</p> <p>Although it is your bed time, I will let you stay up and watch casualty.</p>