

Monday 1st February 2021

Learning Objective To create a story opener.		
Success Criteria	Self-Assessment	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">To look at examples of story openers and identify the effective tools used by the author.		
<ul style="list-style-type: none">To decide how you will open your story depending on your genre of writing (e.g. humorous, adventure, spooky).		
<ul style="list-style-type: none">To draft a story opener linking with your storyboard and including your unique characters.		

Look at the following story openers from books already written and note down if/how the reader makes you want to read on:

Extract 1:

"Where is Papa going with that axe?" Said Fern to her Mother as they were setting down the table for breakfast.

"Out to the hoghouse," replied Mrs Arable, "some pigs were born last night."

"I don't see why he needs an axe," continued Fern, who was only eight.

"Well," said her mother, "one of the pigs is a runt.."

Did this extract make you want to keep reading? Why/why not?

Extract 2:

One afternoon, when Bruno came home from school, he was surprised to find Maria, the family's maid - who always kept her head bowed and never looked up from the carpet - standing in his bedroom, pulling all his belongings out of the wardrobe and packing them into four large wooden crates, even the things he'd

hidden at the back that belonged to him and were no one else's business.

Did this extract make you want to keep reading? Why/why not?

Extract 3:

MARLEY WAS DEAD, to begin with. There is no doubt whatever about that. The register of his burial was signed by the clergyman, the clerk, the undertaker, and the chief mourner. Scrooge signed it. And Scrooge's name was good upon exchange for anything he put his hand to.

Old Marley was as dead as a doornail.

Did this extract make you want to keep reading? Why/why not?

Extract 4:

You've probably never heard of Vincenzo Perugia. But we all know about him. He was a famous art thief and we used to be in the same line of work. My sister Minnie even had a picture of him on her bedroom wall. She reckons that when Vincenzo stole the Mona Lisa from the Louvre museum in Paris on 21 August 1911, that was the most immensely perfect crime ever.

Did this extract make you want to keep reading? Why/why not?

Now create your own story opener using any of the techniques you have seen which you think are the most effective:
