

- Over the last three weeks you read 2 short stories. **Ember City** and **Heat and Light**.
Read these stories again and answer the following questions.

RECALL

What did you like about the opening of each story?

Who was the main character in each story ?

What was the key moment in each story?

What did you like about the ending of each story?

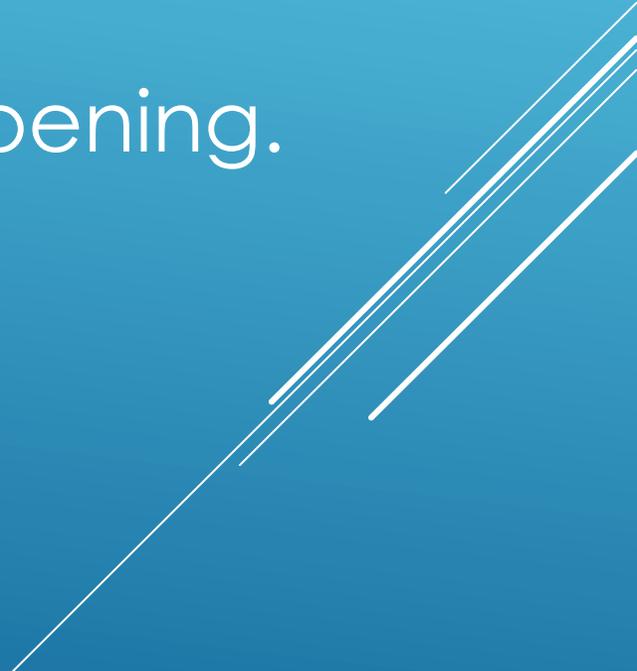
LO: I KNOW HOW TO WRITE A GOOD OPENING OF THE STORY.

Some will even write a good and a bad opening of the story.

Some will write their opinion about each opening.

Most will explain which opening is the best.

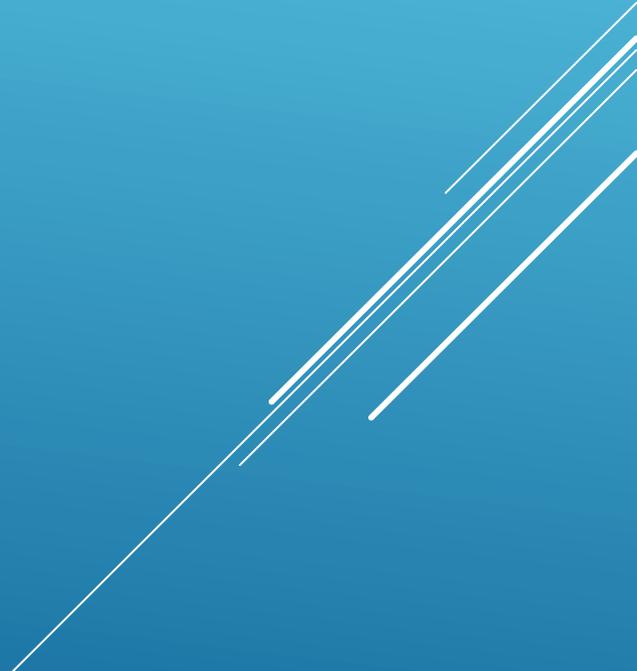
All will match the opening with the picture.

A decorative graphic consisting of several parallel white lines of varying lengths, slanted diagonally from the bottom right towards the top right, set against a blue background.

From your teacher:

During the next two weeks, you will be learning how to write a short story. You will write a story in three stages. To start with, you will write an opening of your story. Then, you will write the main paragraph of the story. Finally, you will write the ending paragraph of the story.

LET'S START!



GUIDED PRACTICE –

Read each opening and match it with a correct picture. Explain your choice in one sentence.



A long time ago, in a little town far away, there lived an old lady called Granny Matilda. She had a next-door neighbour whose name was Robert. Sometimes he dug her garden for her and did the washing up. He was hard-working but not very clever, and he was very greedy...

It was a bright wintery night, the stars and the moon were as bright as never before. I was walking home looking at the stars from time to time. The walk was long and tiring as it was quite late but I carried on. There was nobody around me, I was on my own and I was getting more and more sleepy...

GUIDED PRACTICE – ANSWERS

From your teacher:

When you match the texts with pictures you need to think about the key events in this paragraph.



The man is digging in the garden and he doesn't look too kind.

A long time ago, in a little town far away, there lived an old lady called Granny Matilda. She had a next-door neighbour whose name was Robert. Sometimes he dug her garden for her and did the washing up. He was hard-working but not very clever, and he was very greedy...



It is a bright wintery night with a lot of stars in the sky.

It was a bright wintery night, the stars and the moon were as bright as never before. I was walking home looking at the stars from time to time. The walk was long and tiring as it was quite late but I carried on. There was nobody around me, I was on my own and I was getting more and more sleepy...

GUIDED PRACTICE 2 –

Read each opening again and decide which one is more exciting. Explain your answer.

A long time ago, in a little town far away, there lived an old lady called Granny Matilda. She had a next-door neighbour whose name was Robert. Sometimes he dug her garden for her and did the washing up. He was hard-working but not very clever, and he was very greedy...

It was a bright wintery night, the stars and the moon were as bright as never before. I was walking home looking at the stars from time to time. The walk was long and tiring as it was quite late but I carried on. There was nobody around me, I was on my own and I was getting more and more sleepy...

GUIDED PRACTICE – ANSWERS

FROM YOUR TEACHER:

The best opening is the one, which makes you want to read the rest of the story. It's either interesting or exciting and doesn't reveal too many details of what's going to happen. If you want to find out more...you need to read.

A long time ago, in a little town far away, there lived an old lady called Granny Matilda. She had a next-door neighbour whose name was Robert. Sometimes he dug her garden for her and did the washing up. He was hard-working but not very clever, and he was very greedy... -

This opening hooks reader's attention by presenting Robert as a greedy person, who might want to do something bad to Matilda.

It was a bright wintery night, the stars and the moon were as bright as never before. I was walking home looking at the stars from time to time. The walk was long and tiring as it was quite late but I carried on. There was nobody around me, I was on my own and I was getting more and more sleepy... This is a very boring opening. The person, who is walking, is getting more sleepy and tired and nothing happens.

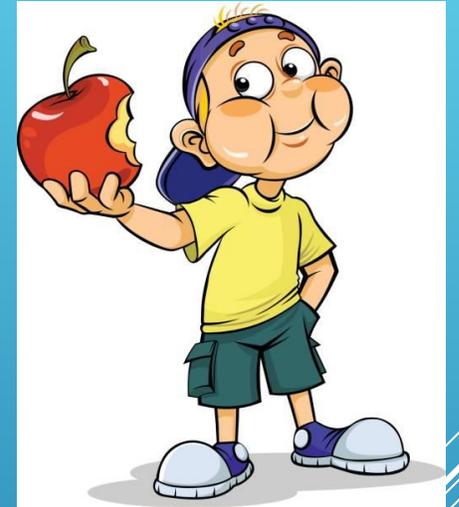
INTELLIGENT PRACTICE—



Match openings with the correct pictures. Explain your choice in one sentence.

1. I hurried forward, my heart beating, as I tried to ignore the whistling of bombs destroying my London, my home. Grace clung to my hand. I could see people running frantically...
2. He opened the window and the wind blew right through him. It quickly and mischievously swirled the curtains around his bedroom. He shut the window and sat on the edge of his bed, scared. He wheezed hard.
3. Fiona McDonald, who was a tall Scottish lady, was up very early one morning. She yawned as she washed up her special cat mug and waited for the kettle to boil. Fiona lived in a big messy house with four of her friends
4. Tom was eating his apple, a red, crispy apple. He was surprised by how much juice the apple had. He couldn't remember where he bought the fruit. Was it the corner shop next to his house?

INTELLIGENT PRACTICE-



INTELLIGENT PRACTICE- ANSWERS



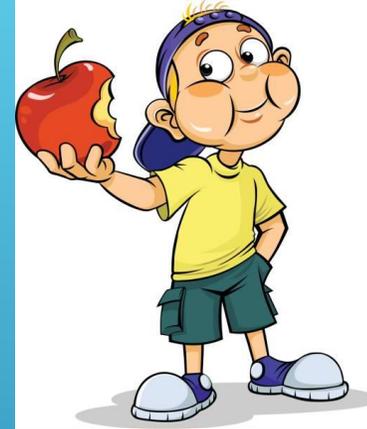
1- Two people are running.



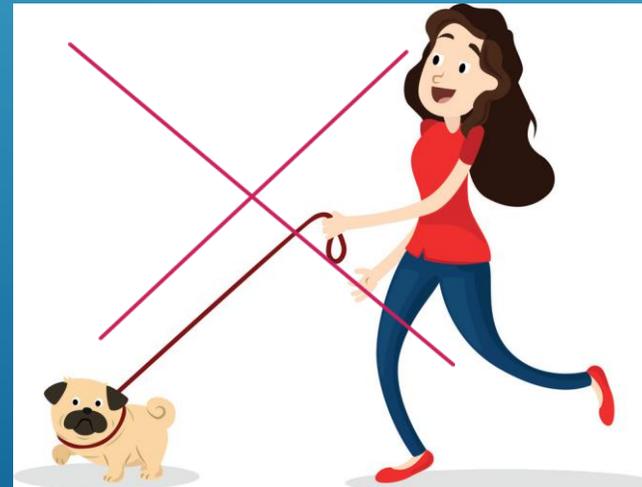
2 —There is strong wind blowing.



3 —She's waiting in the kitchen.



4- He's eating an apple.



INTELLIGENT PRACTICE



Choose the best opening of the story and explain your choice.

1. I hurried forward, my heart beating, as I tried to ignore the whistling of bombs destroying my London, my home. Grace clung to my hand. I could see people running frantically...
2. He opened the window and the wind blew right through him. It quickly and mischievously swirled the curtains around his bedroom. He shut the window and sat on the edge of his bed, scared. He wheezed hard.
3. Fiona McDonald, who was a tall Scottish lady, was up very early one morning. She yawned as she washed up her special cat mug and waited for the kettle to boil. Fiona lived in a big messy house with four of her friends
4. Tom was eating his apple, a red, crispy apple. He was surprised by how much juice the apple had. He couldn't remember where he bought the fruit. Was it the corner shop next to his house?

INTELLIGENT PRACTICE



Answers –

Your answers can be different but you have to explain your choice.

I hurried forward, my heart beating, as I tried to ignore the whistling of bombs destroying my London, my home. Grace clung to my hand. I could see people running frantically... - **I think that this opening is the most exciting and it makes me want to read a whole story.**

INTELLIGENT PRACTICE



Explain what you think about other the openings. What was good or not so great about them.

1. I hurried forward, my heart beating, as I tried to ignore the whistling of bombs destroying my London, my home. *Grace* clung to my hand. I could see people running frantically...
2. He opened the window and the wind blew right through him. It quickly and mischievously swirled the curtains around his bedroom. He shut the window and sat on the edge of his bed, scared. He wheezed hard.
3. Fiona McDonald, who was a tall Scottish lady, was up very early one morning. She yawned as she washed up her special cat mug and waited for the kettle to boil. Fiona lived in a big messy house with four of her friends
4. Tom was eating his apple, a red, crispy apple. He was surprised by how much juice the apple had. He couldn't remember where he bought the fruit. Was it the corner shop next to his house?

INTELLIGENT PRACTICE

ANSWERS



1. I hurried forward, my heart beating, as I tried to ignore the whistling of bombs destroying my London, my home. Grace clung to my hand. I could see people running frantically... **In my opinion, this ending is very exciting and it effectively hooks readers attention. It is full of action.**
2. He opened the window and the wind blew right through him. It quickly and mischievously swirled the curtains around his bedroom. He shut the window and sat on the edge of his bed, scared. He wheezed hard. **This ending is also exciting but we do not know the character. It is "he", who is he?**
3. Fiona McDonald, who was a tall Scottish lady, was up very early one morning. She yawned as she washed up her special cat mug and waited for the kettle to boil. Fiona lived in a big messy house with four of her friends. **This opening is quite boring as it is full of boring facts.**
4. Tom was eating his apple, a red, crispy apple. He was surprised by how much juice the apple had. He couldn't remember where he bought the fruit. Was it the corner shop next to his house? **It is the worst ending because Tom is eating an apple and nothing really happens.**

DIVE DEEPER

FROM YOUR TEACHER:

If you already worked hard and find this task too difficult, don't do it. However, if you want to challenge yourself have a go at it.

Write an example of a bad and a good opening of a story.

