

The Adverb Start:

Starting a sentence with an adverb adds interest.

The Rule: You must place a comma after the adverb, then write the rest of the sentence.

1. Curiously, the film was not shown in public until 2010.
2. Interestingly, no one challenged Napoleon after Snowball was chased away.

Begin with a Preposition:

Prepositions are little words that indicate movement or position. (*e.g. In, Against, Before, Between, Over, Behind, At*).

1. In 1989, the oil tanker ran aground off the coast of
Alaska.
2. After the revolution, there was a period of peace among
the animals.

The -ing Start:

Starts a sentence with the -ing form of a verb.

(e.g. Deciding, speaking, looking, taking, holding).

The Rule: Use a comma after the -ing phrase.

1. Hoping to improve her time, the cyclist doubled her training.
2. Seeing Boxer being taken away, Benjamin tried to show the other animals the truth.

The -ed Start:

Starts a sentence with the -ed form of a verb. This makes for a punchy opening to the sentence.

(e.g. Committed, forced, gifted, thrilled, overpowered).

1. Committed to improving their routine, the dancers trained
10 hours each day.
2. Shocked by what they saw, the animals ran to check the
commandments.

The Semi-colon Sentence:

When you have 2 independent clauses (mini-sentences) joined by a conjunction (*but, and*), remove the conjunction and put in a semi-colon.

1. He was a brilliant scientist; innovation was his passion.
2. Snowball was an intelligent pig; he only wanted what was best for the farm.