

Tips for Writing a Good Beginning Sentence

1. Start with a **question**.

Example: *How did I ever get into this fix?*

2. Start with a strong or surprising **statement**.

Example: *For the first time in her life, Mia was happy to be last.*

3. Start with **action**.

Example: *Everyone was fast asleep until something heavy landed on our roof.*

4. Start with **dialogue** between two characters.

Example: *“Don’t go in there!” Grandpa warned, but I pretended not to hear.*

Directions: Create four stronger beginning sentences to replace the underlined sentence in the paragraph below.

I felt an earthquake last night. My bed was shaking so hard it woke me up.
I heard glass and china rattling in the cupboards. My toy robot fell off the shelf.
At first, I thought our new house must be haunted. Then, I remembered that
I was living in California now. We didn’t have earthquakes back in Texas, but
we sure have them here!

1. Use a **question**.

2. Use a strong or surprising **statement**.

3. Use **action**.

4. Start with **dialogue**.
