

Thursday 4th June 2020

Using sentence openers (fronted adverbials) to improve the quality of your writing

Click onto the following link, open and watch the short film:

https://www.literacyshed.com/uploads/1/2/5/7/12572836/679298904_697.mp4

Then, read the extract below relating to 'The Piano' film.
Can you identify, using a coloured pen, the sentence openers?

Which do you like and why?

Can you swap any of them with your own ideas?

How do great openers improve the writing?

Without pausing, the old man was playing his piano and letting his uncontrollable imagination run wildly free. Suddenly... another hand wanted to join his. Carefully moving his fingers, he continued to play in his own loneliness. As his fingers danced to the tune of his memories, his mind slowly slipped back to a time where his hands played alongside hers; it was a memory that was beautifully sad. He felt her gently sitting next to him, playing her part of their melody and moving her fragile hands across the worn keys. She was here; his wife - whose smile could always light the room and warm the chill of loneliness.

As the tune echoed around the empty room, his happy thoughts disappeared with her fading smile and his thoughts were shaken with the sound of forgotten bullet fire.

Angrily, the memory forced itself to the front of his mind taking him back through the years to a time he never wanted to remember. His friend, whom he loved like a brother, was stood bravely at the front line. As if in slow motion, he heard the fire, heard the thud, heard the fall and ran through his memories to catch him once again... but it was too late; it was always too late.

When the old man returned to his piano, he yet again, found a memory begging to be realised.

TASK

Having read the extract above, your challenge is to use the pictures given below to tell the story part of the boy being given the hobbyhorse.

FOCUS on using great sentence openers to engage the reader and using your creative imagination describe the how, where, when it was taking place.

In the extract above, relative clauses have been included to add more information and semi-colons have been used to separate independent clauses. If you can, as an extension, try to apply these skills when writing your passage.

