

**Year 5**

**Story Openers**

# Story Openers

Story openers help to set the tone for the rest of our writing.

A good opening makes the reader want to read on.



A good opening tantalises the reader with an idea of who, where, when or what is happening (or is going to happen).

# Story Openers

Stories can open with a **character description**.

*He was a rich man: banker, merchant, manufacturer, and what not. A big, loud man, with a stare, and a metallic laugh.*

# Story Openers

Stories can open with a **description of a setting**.

'There was once a gaggle of mountains, tall and proud, each with a hat of snow.'

from *Stone Goblins*,  
by David Melling

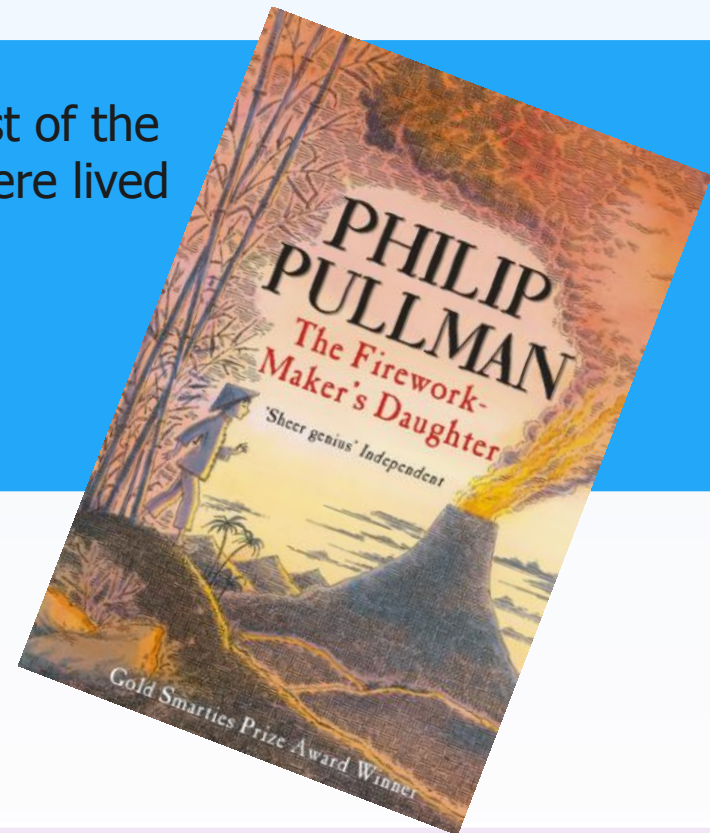


# Story Openers

Stories can open with **a description of both a character and a setting.**

'A thousand miles ago, in a country east of the jungle and south of the mountains, there lived a Firework-Maker called Lalchand.....'

From *The Firework-Maker's Daughter*  
by Phillip Pullman



# Story Openers

Stories can open with **dialogue**.

'Mollly!' Maria shouted to her sister.  
'Would you please shut that window...!'

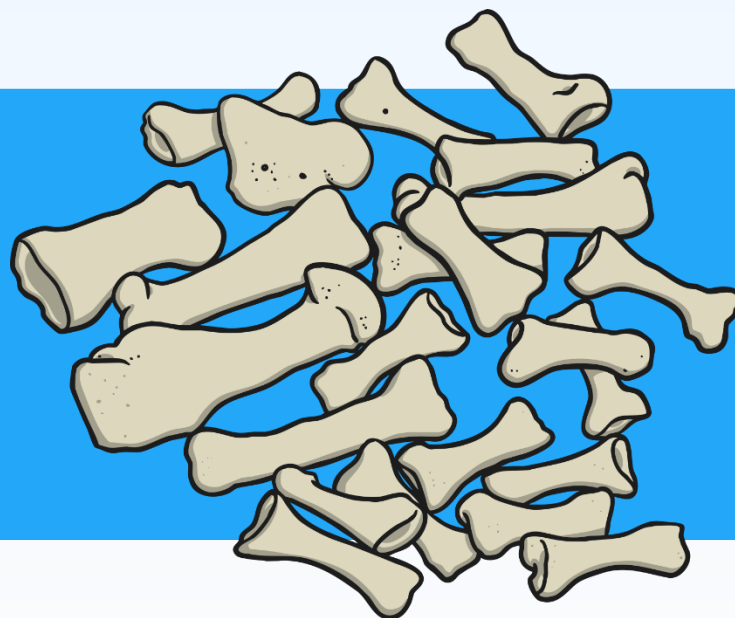
from *School for Stars: Second Term  
at L'Etoile* by Holly and Kelly Willoughby

# Story Openers

Stories can open with **action**.

'Jesse was always finding bones in the great bog-oak field where they dug the peat for the winter fires.'

from *The Ghost of Grania O'Malley*  
by Michael Morpurgo



# Story Openers

Stories can open with **a question**.

Good openers sometimes leave the reader with an unanswered question, which can only be answered by reading on.

'Ever had the feeling your life's been flushed down the toilet?'

From *The Toilet of Doom* by Michael Lawrence

