

LO: To plan a story opening

These are all opening sentences from well-known novels. Which story opening is your favourite/least favourite? Why?

“Peter crouched over the fire, stirring the embers so that the sparks swarmed up like imps on the rocky walls of hell.”

*Count Karlstein* - Phillip Pullman

“It’s a funny thing about mothers and fathers. Even when their own child is the most disgusting little blister you could ever imagine, they still think that he or she is wonderful.”

*Matilda* - Roald Dahl

“My father’s family name being Pirrip, and my Christian name Philip, my infant tongue could make of both names nothing longer or more explicit than Pip. So, I called myself Pip, and came to be called Pip.”

*Great Expectations* – Charles Dickens

“The hottest day of the summer so far was drawing to a close and a drowsy silence lay over the large, square houses of Privet Drive.”

*Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix* – JK Rowling

“Once there were four children whose names were Peter, Susan, Edmund and Lucy.”

*The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe* – CS Lewis

“I disappeared on the night before my twelfth birthday. “

*Kensuke’s Kingdom* - Michael Morpurgo

“An ice storm, following seven days of snow; the vast fields and drifts of snow turning to sheets of glazed ice that shine and shimmer blue in the moonlight, as if the colour is being fabricated not by the bending and absorption of light but by some chemical reaction within the glossy ice; as if the source of all blueness lies somewhere up here in the north—the core of it beneath one of these frozen fields; as if blue is a thing that emerges, in some parts of the world, from the soil itself, after the sun goes down.”

*The Hermit’s Story* – Rick Bass