

18th Dec '14 STORY OPENINGS

* Lesson objectives:

- explore a variety of openings and endings
- consider their effects.
- try them out ~~on~~ in your own writing.

* Technique 1: creating a particular atmosphere or tone which fits with the sort of a story we want to read.

- Eg: a) The candle-light from the old cottage flickered against the window pane as he brushed the branches aside.
- b) She could see that the surface of the planet was pockmarked with tiny silver pools as she stepped from the landing craft.

* Technique 2: offering something funny, surprising, surreal or shocking.

- Eg: a) It was a bright cold day in April, and the clocks were striking thirteen.
- b) I write this sitting in the kitchen sink.

* Technique 3: conveying a particular memory or occasion in a way that wants us to find out more about what went on.

- Eg: a) It was the day my grandmother exploded.
- b) We started dying before the snow, and ~~it~~ like the snow ~~we~~ we continued to fall.

* Technique 4: Using a general statement or metaphor which might thematically 'set up' what is to come.

- Eg: a) The past is a foreign country; they do things differently there.
- b) It is a truth ~~now~~ universally acknowledged that a single man in possession of a good fortune must be in want of a wife.