

## Choose a useful opening

A fronted adverbial tells the reader something about the main event. Choose a detail that fits, then mark the end of the whole opening.

### Time: when?

**After lunch,**  
we checked the seedlings.

**At sunrise,**  
the campsite grew busy.

**When the bell rang,**  
we packed our bags.

---

### Place: where?

**Under the oak tree,**  
we found a shell.

**Near the library,**  
we left our bikes.

**Inside the museum,**  
the group drew three objects.

---

### Manner: how?

**Carefully,**  
the class measured the water.

**Without a sound,**  
the fox crossed the path.

**With great care,**  
the keeper lifted the bowl.

---

### Reason: why?

**Because the path was muddy,**  
we chose a different route.

**As the bridge was closed,**  
we used the footpath.

**Since the soil was dry,**  
the gardener watered it.

---

## Read, cover, explain

Cover the opening. Can you read a complete main clause?

Reveal it. What does this detail tell the reader?

Check the whole opening, its capital letter and its comma.

---

## Move the detail. Keep the event.

Move each bold detail to the front. Adjust the capitals and add a comma after the whole opening. Then explain what the detail adds.

### Worked example

We found a shell **under the oak tree**.

**Under the oak tree**, we found a shell.

The opening tells the reader where the discovery happened.

---

1. We checked the seedlings **after lunch**.

The opening tells the reader:

---

2. The keeper lifted the bowl **with great care**.

The opening tells the reader:

---

3. We packed our bags **when the bell rang**.

The opening tells the reader:

---

4. Write your own sentence. Underline the whole opening.

---

---

### Teacher answers, cover before independent practice.

1. After lunch, we checked the seedlings. The detail tells us when.

2. With great care, the keeper lifted the bowl. The detail tells us how.

3. When the bell rang, we packed our bags. The detail tells us when.

4. Check a complete main clause, a relevant opening and its punctuation. Several different answers are possible.