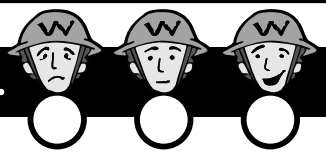


Name: _____



I can rewrite sentences using verbs as sentence openers.

We have looked at different ways of structuring a sentence. We can start with a fronted adverbial.
 The all clear siren started to wail eventually.
Eventually, the all clear siren started to wail.

We can start a sentence with a conjunction and the subordinate clause.
 You could tell that they were big explosions although the noise was muffled.
Although the noise was muffled, you could tell that they were big explosions.

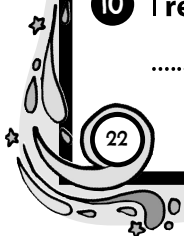
Now we are going to learn how to start sentences with verb sentence openers.
 I shivered when I reached the top of the staircase.
Reaching the top of the staircase, I shivered.

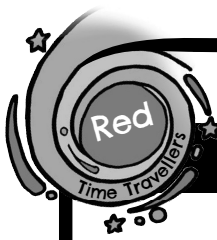
*The verb **reached** has been moved to the front of the sentence, and it has been changed to the **ing** form of the verb.*

Rewrite the sentences below using one of the three sentence structures in the examples above. (The starting words have been written in bold to help you.)

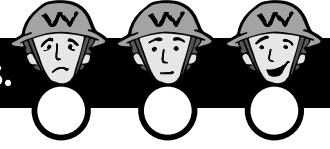
- 1 I **freed** myself from the lady's arms and ran towards my house.
.....
- 2 I **climbed** over a pile of rubble and began to search for my mobile.
.....
- 3 It had been thrown out of my hand **when** the bomb exploded.
.....
- 4 I would be able to contact Mum **if** my mobile was working.
.....
- 5 The lady **thought** I was trying to find my family and shouted to the policeman.
.....
- 6 I knew Mum and Joe hadn't been killed **because** I had seen their empty beds.
.....
- 7 The policeman **huffed** and puffed as he climbed over the rubble to speak to me.
.....
- 8 I **ignored** his request to stop and rummaged through the broken bricks.
.....
- 9 I **cut** myself on something sharp and looked down at my hand.
.....
- 10 I **reluctantly** gave up my search and returned to the waiting family.
.....

Extension Look through the passage and restructure some of the sentences.





I can use brackets, dashes or commas for parentheses.



Brackets, dashes and commas can all be used to separate extra information from the rest of the sentence. It should be possible to take out the information in **parentheses** (in brackets, or between dashes and commas), and the sentence will still make sense.

There are subtle differences between the three types of parentheses.

Brackets are often used for an aside or a commentary.

"Do you understand, sonny?" (I wished they wouldn't keep calling me that!)

You will find exceptions, but **dashes** are often used for dramatic interruptions.

"I am definitely not Andrew!" I shouted back – my patience now reaching breaking point.

Commas are used for enclosing additional, but often more natural parts of a sentence.

He took out a small notepad, licked the lead of his pencil, and began to ask me some questions.

Decide whether the additional information should be enclosed by brackets, dashes or commas. (To help you, one type of parentheses has been underlined, one written in bold and one in italics.)

- 1 "I'll confirm the details **which the lad has given me** when I get back to the station," the policeman informed the lady.
- 2 He asked the lady **who was on the point of crying** if she could look after me until he returned.
- 3 He thanked the lady and promised me he would sort it out for me like I believed that!
- 4 He left, and the lady stroked my hair again! and patted my hand.
- 5 She went upstairs **to one of the children's bedrooms** and came back down with a pile of clothes in her arms.
- 6 She told me that they were Kenneth's I think he was her eldest son, but he had grown out of them so I could have the hand-me-downs.
- 7 "You can't wear your pyjamas all day," she said looking at the picture of Superman **which was on the front of my pyjamas** as if she had never seen a superhero before.
- 8 She stood looking at me sadly before leaving me to get dressed **for a moment I thought I was going to have to get changed in front of her!**
- 9 I laid the clothes out on the small armchair and laughed when I saw what I was supposed to wear **grey knee-length socks, a patterned tank top and a pair of boy's long short trousers!**
- 10 She was right though **I couldn't wear my pyjamas all day** so **checking no one would barge in on me** I quickly changed into the hand-me-downs.

Extension Which of the words in the passage could be rewritten in another form of parentheses?