

# Super Sentence Styles

**Top writers use a variety of sentence styles and structures.**

Sentence Style	Top Tips	Example
Simple Sentence - ss	All SS start with capital letter and end in a full stop. They have only one clause.	<b>My</b> friend and I went to the park last night.
Time conjunction/ connective	First...Second...Next...Then	<b>First</b> , we cut the shape out. <b>Next</b> , we coloured it in.
Compound sentences (FANBOYS) two main clauses of equal weight, no subordinate clause.	Use one of the connectives (conjunctions) below to connect 2 main clauses together.  <b>For And Nor But Because Or Yet So</b>	I felt ill, <b>so</b> I could not go to the party.
Alliteration	Repeat a letter sound. Don't overuse this in your writing.	<b>S</b> lowly and <b>s</b> ilently, the <b>s</b> nake slithered towards the <b>s</b> and.
Commas in a list (Long Descriptive sentences)	Use lots of descriptive WOW words and detail to describe something.	<b>There in a dark, dusty corner of the attic, the lamp glowed mysteriously.</b>
Starting the sentence with a subordinate clause (e.g. ing and ed words)	Open your sentence with an -ing word.  Open your sentence with an -ed word.  Remember that a subordinate clause contains a verb.	<b>Trembling</b> with fear, Tom edged closer to the cliff.  <b>Amazed</b> , I looked around with wonder.
Subordinate clause in the middle of the sentence	A pair of commas is used, look at the words inside the commas - the sentence should keep its meaning and make sense, with or without these words.	Mr Thomas Walker, <b>who was aged 42</b> , was arrested in his home yesterday evening.
Ending a sentence with a subordinate clause	It is important to use a subordinate clauses at the beginning, the middle and the end of sentences if you're to be a top writer.	I was sitting at the table, <b>when a horrible man entered the room.</b>
Simile	Compare one thing to something else. Use the word like or as. Don't use more than 3 times in a piece of writing.	Her skin felt <b>as</b> soft as silk.
Metaphor	Compare one thing to something else (don't use as or like). Don't use more than 3 times in a piece of writing.	<b>Her cheeks were rosy red apples.</b>
Personification	Give non-living things human or animal characteristics but choose carefully. Don't use more than 3 times in a piece of writing.	<b>The walls whispered their secrets of times gone by.</b>
Start sentences with conjunctions/ connectives in informal writing (HANDS)	Start with - However...Although...Nevertheless... Despite...Since.	<b>Although</b> Billy had been warned many times to stay away from the old house, he still went up there.
Reported Speech	Speech marks are not needed here - you report what the person has said using their exact words.	The judge <b>stated that he did not believe a word the defendant told him.</b>
Direct Speech	Speech marks (inverted commas) are needed to mark when a character is talking. Great writers use quality words other than said and use adverbs to give more information about how something is being said e.g. he shouted angrily.	Charlie looked aggressively towards me and yelled <b>"Get out now!"</b> <b>"Get out now!"</b> Charlie demanded evilly. <b>"Get out now!"</b> Charlie cried desperately, <b>"I am busy."</b>
Character show not tell sentence	Don't tell the reader what a character is like, show them through their words, actions and description.	<b>Her cold blue eyes glared icily at me as she spat out the words, "How dare you! Don't you know who I am?"</b>
Flashback sentences	Use flashbacks, memory recall, time shift etc.	<b>An image flashed through my mind. I had been to this house before, many years ago. At once my mind drifted back...</b>

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Question sentence ??????	Who? Why? What? Where? When? How? The ? replaces the full stop.	Who was he? Where did he come from? What did he want?
Exclamation marks	Commands, loud noises, astonishment, shock, surprise sentences all use an exclamation mark. It replaces a full stop.	I could not believe it, she vanished before my eyes! He towered over me, at least 5 metres tall!
Commas in lists	Your list can be a list of anything. E.g. objects, adjectives (describing words) feelings or events. Don't forget commas but not before the word and.	She was a spiteful, mean, cruel and heartless woman. He saw her, walked towards her and held out his hand.
Apostrophes for possession and contraction.	To show belonging also used when words are shortened and letters are left out.	I took hold of Tom's hand and led him to the door. By the sound of things I could tell it wasn't going to be my day.
Direct speech.	Don't forget the speech marks only go around words spoken out loud. Try not to use said. Do not use more than 4 times in a paragraph.	Charlie looked over towards me and yelled "Get out now!"
Dash sentence	To show broken thoughts in a sentence. Can be used to introduce a list of items.	My friend Sally - well I thought she was my friend - well she decided not to come. In my pocket there was - a torch, a coin, a sweet...
Some;others (Often used in persuasive writing)	A two part sentence - it begins with the word some and uses a semi colon rather than a joining word to separate it from the second part which begins with the word others.	Some people love football; others can't stand it.
Semi Colon	Semi colons are used to separate two main clauses. Make sure you don't use a connective in between these.	I earned loads of money last week; I worked lots of hours of overtime.
Colon Sentence 1	A two part sentence separated by a colon. The first part is descriptive and the second part adds detail.	I was exhausted: I hadn't slept for sixty hours.
Colon Sentence 2	Used before a list or before a quote.	There were only three things I needed to buy: string, glue and paper. As my Uncle always says: Never look an angry bear in the eye.
Outside (In)	Made up of two related sentences. The first tells you what is happening on the outside and what the character is thinking. The second sentence, which is placed inside brackets, lets the reader know the characters true, inner feelings.	He smiled and shook the man's hand warmly. (Inside, he was angrier than he had ever been.)
Bracket sentence ( )	Used to make something clearer, to give more information. Can also be used to make an aside comment, a comment to yourself.	Jo's bike was red (bright red) with a yellow saddle. Sam said he was pleased to be at the party. (It wasn't true, he longed to go home.)
Ellipsis sentence	Used when a sentence has been left unfinished, when the writer has decided to leave something unsaid or trailed off into silence.	He moved slowly towards me, surely it couldn't be...

