Help Yourself to Write
In Year 5 and 6

Start a new paragraph if there is a:
- Change of topic
- A jump in time
- A change of place
- A new speaker

Punctuation
Use all of these
, ? ! ; “ ” - — ... ()
- a hyphen links re-cover
- a dash separates use bullet points

Start with an ed word
Frightened
Swaying
Exhausted
Climbing
Excited
Praying
Worried
Listening
Surprised
Dreaming
Petriﬁed
Glowing
Blessed
Running
Confused
Sprinting
Concerned
Dying
Delighted
Crying
Cornered
Bouncing
Betrayed
Warning
Disappointed
Sitting
Tired
Bowling
Hunted
Growing
Wanted
Laughing
Petriﬁed


can, should, would, could, will, might, must

Semi colons:
- Independent clause; linked independent clause
- Use between phrases in lists: a sharpened pencil; a ruler with marked millimetres; a new rubber and a black ballpoint pen.

Subjunctive verbs—used in the formal voice
If I were......
The school requires that all pupils be honest.

He demanded that we not go to the forest.

Modal verbs—verbs of possibility

Passive voice
(to be + past participle)
Remember—can you add by zombies onto the end?

The tea was eaten...
I am surprised...
It is made...
She was collected...
It will be washed...
They were finished...
I am called...
It has been cleaned...
It had been destroyed...

Colons:
- de:de (describe:detail) independent clause : more information after the independent clause
- Introduce a list after a clause: a pencil, a ruler and a pen.

Parenthesis
Use brackets
The girl (who was tiny) fell off the beam.
Use dashes
The girl—who was tiny—fell off the beam.
Use commas
The girl, who was tiny, fell off the beam.

Superstar sentences starters

Start with a simile
As quiet as a mouse
As gentle as a giant
Running like the wind

Smiling like a pleased cat
Exploding like a ﬁrework
As sly as a secret magician
As cold as a block of ice

Start with Personiﬁcation
The sea breathed in and out.
The tree shook its leaves.

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Vary those sentences
Sentence of 3: The boy opened the door, slipped out the side and ran off.
Add alliteration: The canny canine ran after the flea-bitten feline.
Change words: The dog scurried after the cat as it skidded around the corner.

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