

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Subject: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Period: \_\_\_\_\_

## Six Ways to Start a Narrative

**Directions:** All of the examples below could have been used for the same story. Experiment when you write a narrative. Try several different methods, and then choose the best.

<b>Where</b>	Maya headed to the kitchen. There was no time to waste. The cake had to be done in two hours.
<b>When</b>	The clock read 3:00 p.m. “How did it get so late?” thought Maya. “That birthday cake has to be on the table in two hours!”
<b>Action Verb</b>	Maya opened the oven door. Something just wasn’t right. No sweet smell of cake drifted from the oven. In fact, her cake, still a blobby mess, sat stone cold on the oven rack.
<b>Introduce a Character</b>	Maya was the queen of procrastination. She didn’t put things off intentionally. Rather she drifted along, lost in her own world, until time smacked her in the face.
<b>Interesting Comment</b>	There’s more than one way to bake a birthday cake. It’s something you might not consider until you are faced with a broken oven and little time.
<b>Dialogue</b>	“Turn it on high, it just has to work!” screeched Maya above the whirring of the blow dryer. “There has got to be a better way,” said her brother James. “How about the heat lamp on my lizard’s cage?” The look on Maya’s face was a mix of disbelief, disgust, and a pinch of possibility.