**Twenty Ways to Begin English Sentences**

For additional assistance, check out [this website with lots of grammar info](http://grammar.ccc.commnet.edu/grammar/definitions.htm); it’ll help you understand the terms and phrases below!

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|  | Subject alone |  | John drove his car. |
|  | Article and subject |  | The children are playing. |
|  | Adjective and subject |  | Small birds flit about the tree. |
|  | Adverb before subject |  | Quickly we ran for shelter. |
|  | Prepositional phrase as an adverb first  |  | In the window, the apples looked larger. |
|  | Present participial phrase first |  | Taking a shortcut, the boy soon reached the fairgrounds. |
|  | Past participial phrase first |  | Finished with his lessons, he went to play tennis. |
|  | Absolute phrase |  | His work completed, he went to bed. |
|  | Infinitive as subject |  | To win was his first consideration. |
|  | Gerund as subject |  | Swimming is his favourite sport. |
|  | Adverbial clause |  | When the plane landed, the pilot wearily climbed out. |
|  | Postponed subjects |  | There are in that recipe six ingredients. |
|  | Noun clause first |  | How he could avoid doing his chores puzzled the boy. |
|  | Verb first |  | Gone are the people who believed such superstitions. |
|  | Conjunction first |  | But the last was the best of all! |
|  | Object first |  | The veto, the senators acclaimed. |
|  | Interjections |  | What? We have no food for lunch?!? ORWell, move the ball or move the body. |
|  | Transitional word(s) |  | In fact, we had to postpone the party. ORMoreover, we hope to have it tomorrow. |
|  | Predicate adjective first |  | Calm was the night. |
|  | Introductory phrase first |  | In Detroit, weather weighs heavily upon everyone. |