

The WAVE Technique

How to Begin a Story

1. Write a statement.
2. Support the statement with action.
3. Support the statement with dialog.
4. Write a clincher.

EXAMPLE:

(1) Mary was tired. (2) She kicked off her boots and flopped in the chair by the fireplace. (3) "I always forget something and have to go shopping on Christmas Eve. Never again," Mary said, sighing. (4) Just then, she heard the laughter of children approaching her house.

Now write the rest of these WAVES using the first statement. (Characters are from *Miami Gets It Straight*):

Miami was upset.

String was happy.

Destinee was determined to win.

Now write a wave on your own. Create a new character and include him or her in your own story.