

Name _____

Date _____

Get the Readers' Attention

To **hook your reader** in the opening, use **powerful and precise language**. Strong openings:

- Use **vivid verbs and descriptive adjectives**.
- Add **sound effects or action words**.
- Include **confident statements** to engage the reader.

Compare the two openings below. The writer of Opening 2 used techniques to get the reader's attention. Write at least two examples of each technique below.

Opening 1

Moviegoers who like scenes full of fast-moving vehicles will like this funny movie about two oddball bank robbers. These guys aren't very smart. They just drive around the county in old trucks. Going after these robbers are a couple of amusing police officers. The actors who play them are really good.

Opening 2

Screech! Blam! If you like to watch careening cars and tilting trucks, then buy your ticket for this wild-and-whacky ride of a movie about two oddball bank robbers. These guys are clueless idiots. They just tumble across the county in broken-down trucks. Cheerfully chasing these luckless criminals are the zaniest police officers you will ever see. The actors who play them are bound to get an Academy Award for their performances.

Technique	Examples
Sound-effect words	
Confident language	
Alliteration	
Strong adjectives	

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Get the Readers' Attention – Answer Key

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Technique	Examples
Sound-effect words	Screech! Blam!
Confident language	buy your ticket, bound to get an Award
Alliteration	wild-and-whacky
Strong adjectives	careening, tilting, clueless, luckless