

Story starter! (1 of 2)



Many years ago, when I was just a small boy, we had found a mysterious object washed up on the beach. It was a sort of silver-grey colour, and looked like a finger, only much, much larger.

My friends and I had huddled together on the beach around the thing, holding our hands up to our faces to shield our eyes from the dazzling sun, talking excitedly about what it could be. Some hours later, after we had all made up wild stories about the origin of our new toy, we dragged the colossal item that was the size of our dining table up to the village.

As we made our way slowly over the sand dunes, and the long, wispy grass that marked the end of the beach and the start of the fields, a crowd seemed to be gathering. Women and young children were leaving their houses, young lads were leaving tools and ploughs unattended in the fields, and rosy-cheeked men were stumbling out of the smoke-filled tavern, all hurrying with increasing urgency towards us ...

Story starter! (2 of 2)



... Over the next days, weeks, months and years, stories were told of how our land was in danger from some kind of threat. There was fretful talk of giants, and frantic warnings about unearthly automatons come to take our lands from us. For years, people had looked over their shoulders, fearful that they were being watched, fearful that something unexpected and terrible was about to occur. For years, unsatisfied farmers had complained about their disappointing harvests, prophesising that the end of the world was near!

Of course, none of us believed them, and none of us thought anything as sinister as the end of the world was just around the corner. But, we did seem to know in our heart of hearts that something was amiss. Something wasn't quite right...

15 Years later...

I stand on the edge of my lands, grasping my spear firmly in my steady hands. A determined grimace spreads across my face. This is the moment we had all feared. All feared, but never dared to take seriously. Well, now we would have to take it seriously. We would have to take them seriously.

They had arrived...



Image by: Kerem Beyit

Question time!

- ▶ Who/what are these things that are approaching?
- ▶ Are the people right to be wary?
- ▶ Do you think the new arrivals mean harm or do they come in peace?
- ▶ How many of them do you think they are?
- ▶ Where have they come from?
- ▶ Who is the character telling the story?
- ▶ How will people deal with this 'threat'?
- ▶ Who controls the airships?

Sentence challenge!

Good writers always try to start sentences in different and interesting ways. Can you write a sentence that begins with a noun?

E.g. The warrior, who was nervous at the site that greeted him, gripped his spear tightly.

A comma always follows the noun, and the sentence contains a relative clause in the middle.

- ▶ The warrior, who
- ▶ The horse, who
- ▶ A robot, with



Sick sentences!

These sentences are 'sick' and need help to get better. Can you help? Could you add an adverb?

- ▶ The big scary giants were walking.
- ▶ They had massive, big hands and their eyes were shining.



Perfect picture!

Can you design your own giant robot? It could be friendly/helpful, or it could be evil and wicked!

