**Types of beginnings**

Summary statement:

“Murderers walk through these halls, and the mothers of the murderers and the mothers of the murdered too. This is 26th Street and Main.”

Narrative:

“At some point rather early in the spring of 1947, a Bedouin boy called Muhammed the Wolf was minding some goats near a cliff on the western shore of the Dead Sea.”

Descriptive:

“Mel Smith’s trailer looks more like a rumpus room than the dressing room of a star.”

Ironic/Twist:

“After four years of high school and three years at Stanford, Debbie Graham decided on a career as a professional tennis player. There’s just one problem: At 21, she maybe too old.”

Opposition:

“On one side, the business leaders say…..On the other side, the homeowners say….In the middle sits…”

Symbolic detail:

“Barbara Jones remembers the doors, the thick glass double doors with metal trim that led to the employment office.”

Conversational:

“The first thing you need to know about PMS is that it’s real. It’s not in your head. You’re not crazy.”

Quotes:

Bob Smith paused on the court house steps, turned to the audience and said, “Take down this rebel flag.”

**Endings**

--Avoid the obvious:

IN summary…

Let it noted…

What insights, then, have we gained…

Don’t bore the reader. If you are bored, the reader will be bored:

--good endings take the reader by surprise

--When you are ready to stop, stop.

--sentences should get shorter, quicker…

--come full circle. Come back the thing or person you highlighted in the intro

--end with a quote or a surprise