

10 Power Techniques to Start Your Scenes

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| #1 | Start at the beginning | Start right at the beginning of the scene action. |
| #2 | In medias res | “In medias res” is Latin for “starting in the middle of things” (rather than starting at the beginning). Start in the middle of the scene action, after something significant has already happened. |
| #3 | Link to a previous scene | Remind the reader of something that happened before that’s relevant to the current scene. |
| #4 | Summary of previous/intervening action | Let the reader know about events that have happened since the previous scene (usually, events that won’t be interesting to the reader but which the reader must know about). |
| #5 | The big promise | Make the reader a promise about what’s coming in the scene. |
| #6 | Setting (in action!) | Start the scene with a description of the setting in action. Ideally, you want to show or imply how that action will affect at least one character. |
| #7 | Introducing a character | Start the scene by introducing the reader to a character in a compelling way. |
| #8 | Dialogue | Start the scene with dialogue that creates suspense. |
| #9 | Observation | Start the scene with an observation by either the omniscient narrator or by the POV/focal character of the scene. (Can be philosophical, funny, wise, or all of the above.) |
| #10 | Zoom-in | Start with the big picture and zoom in on a specific character. |

Discover how to use each of these techniques to create suspense in your stories, as well as the 6 things every scene opening must accomplish in a free video course, **10 Power Techniques to Start Your Scenes**:
<http://www.writersfunzone.com/blog/thanks-for-registering-for-this-10-power-techniques-webinar/>