



REAL ENGLISH

GET ENGLISH USEFUL FOR YOUR EVERYDAY LIFE!

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Volume 10

Aomori Prefecture English Education
Society

何事もつかみが肝心

明けましておめでとうございます。今年のはじめは、まさに「どのように文章を書き始めるか」を考えてみましょう。新年早々みなさんのハートを掴む内容になっていますよ。

To Start 2024 - Let's Start with How We Start Our Sentences

I often tell students to 'notice how sentences begin.'

Why?

There are many ways to say the same thing ... you can use different sentence patterns to 'communicate' the same or a very similar idea. Often the variety of those sentences is easiest to see in how the sentence begins.

And while such sentences 'function' in the same way – the message is nearly the same – these differences can provide nuance ... reveal a point of view ... show a certain emphasis

Thinking about how we begin our sentences can also help with fluency: it is important to 'know how' and 'be able to' finish a sentence once you begin with a certain pattern.

Of course, there are grammar explanations for these different sentences. But, it is sometimes easiest when speaking to create sentences using the 'sentence beginning' that comes into your mind ... rather than searching for some grammatical sentence option.

Let's Try The Main Idea of my sentence: [start / begin a sentence] + ([way]) + [important]

Sentence Start 1: The ideas in order: *The ...*

Sentence Start 1a: The start of a sentence is important.
 The beginning of a sentence is important.

Sentence Start 1b: (adding [way]) The way you begin a sentence is important.

Sentence Start 1c: (adding [way]) The way a sentence starts is important.

Sentence Start 2: Starting with *How* or *Wh-* vocabulary

Sentence Start 2a: How you begin a sentence is important.

Sentence Start 2b: How a sentence is started is important.

Sentence Start 2c: What you do to begin a sentence is important.

Sentence Start 3: *It is* as the start

Sentence Start 3a: It is important how a sentence is started.

Sentence Start 3b: It is important how you begin a sentence.

Other Starts

Sentence Start 4: Starting sentences in a certain way is important.

Sentence Start 5: Sentence beginnings are very important.

Let's try another one.

Main Idea: [study] + [every day] + [vital = important] + [improve English]

We can use either a one-sentence pattern or a two-sentence pattern.

Sentence Start 1: The ideas in order: *Studying*

Studying every day is vital to improving your English.

Sentence Start 2: Combining [study] + [every day] for *Every day* as the start

'*Every day study*' is vital to improving your English.

Sentence Start 3: *Vital* as the start

The number one vital thing to improving your English is to study every day.

The most important thing to improving your English is studying every day.

Sentence Start 4: starting with *improve English*

To improve your English, it is vital to study every day.

Sentence Start 5: *It* as the start

It is vital to study every day to improve your English.

Emphasizing with a *Wh-* or an *H-* word can require two sentences.

When you study is important. (How you study is important.)

+ [any of the sentences above]

The idea is that thinking about the beginning of a sentence is good for your creativity and fluency in English.

Thinking about how you begin your sentences is an idea that can help your English creativity and fluency.

The creativity and fluency of your English can come through thinking about different sentence beginnings.

Next REAL ENGLISH: FEBRUARY 2024!

昨年、コロナ収束という大きな節目の年になりました。(こんな文章の書き始めじゃだめですね。) 昨年は、一年を締める漢字が「税」というのも象徴的でした。キックバック……。この号が出る頃には、もはや懐かしい言葉となっているのでしょうか。しかしながら、視野を広く保つためにも外国語の重要性は一層重視、どうせ情報発信するなら世界中に届けみなさん(われら)の頑張りよ。今年一年是非新しいことを一つ始めてみてください。大きいことじゃなくても大丈夫ですよ。持続可能性が大切です。まずはみなさんの健康と今年のさらなる活躍を祈念して、2024年の第1号としたいと思います。(文責 伴)

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