Start the Story

Notice how a story's beginning sets up what happens next.

2.W.4.a "Include a beginning;"

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline the sentence that tells who, when, and where the story starts, and circle the sentence that shows the first problem.

Mia's Red Kite

1. On Saturday morning, Mia took her red kite to the park with Dad. The wind tugged at her hat. Mia held the kite high, but the string slipped from her hand, and the kite flew toward a tall tree.
2. Mia ran after the kite. It caught on a low branch. Dad lifted Mia so she could reach the string. Mia pulled gently, but the branch held the kite tight. Then Dad saw a long stick on the ground.
3. Dad used the stick to lift the branch. The kite came free, and Mia held the string with both hands. She and Dad moved to an open field. This time, Mia watched her kite rise above the grass.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. Which details in the beginning tell when and where the story starts?

2. Who does the beginning introduce, and what does Mia bring?

3. What problem starts in the beginning of the story?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write the beginning of a new story about a lost object. In two or three sentences, tell who is there, when and where the story starts, and what goes wrong.

ANSWER KEY

Start the Story

GRADE 2 · 2.W.4.a

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline the sentence that tells who, when, and where the story starts, and circle the sentence that shows the first problem. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Which details in the beginning tell when and where the story starts?	**It starts on Saturday morning at the park.**
2	Who does the beginning introduce, and what does Mia bring?	**The beginning introduces Mia and Dad. Mia brings a red kite.**
3	What problem starts in the beginning of the story?	**The string slips from Mia's hand, and her kite flies toward a tall tree.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

On Monday afternoon, Leo and his sister went to the library. Leo set his blue notebook on a chair while he picked a book. When he turned back, the notebook was gone.

For the marking job, accept the first sentence underlined and the last sentence of the first paragraph circled. For the student's story, look for characters, a time and place, and a problem in two or three sentences.