**Writing Comparison-Contrast Essays**

**Writing** the Beginning Paragraph

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| Student: |  | Date: |  |

**Write a lead.**

Read each lead-writing strategy and example and write your own.

The first sentence in your essay should grab the reader's attention. It is called a "lead." The following activity will help you write an effective lead sentence.

1. Explain why the subject matters:

Dolphins and whales are among the most majestic creatures on earth.

2. Provide a surprising fact:

Two of the smartest animals on earth live in the ocean.

3. Ask a question:

Did you know dolphins and whales come from the same biological family?