A student was given the assignment to write a personal narrative about an embarrassing moment. Now, the student wants your help to determine which of the leads below would be the best beginning to her piece. Which one do you like best? Which one do you think she should use?

*Lead #1*

In this story I am going to tell you about an embarrassing moment. It all started on Sunday. I got in the car with my parents and we drove to camp.

*Lead #2*

“Don’t go, Emmy!” my sister wailed as we got out of the car. Normally I would have been understanding, but this time I callously brushed her aside.

“Don’t be silly,” I mumbled, hoping that no one else saw what a dope I had for a sister. “I’ll only be here for a week.”

If I had known then what was about to happen, I wouldn’t have worried about my sister’s pleas. I was about to face my most embarrassing moment ever—and, surprisingly, Sarah had nothing to do with it.

*Lead #3*

We call the final road to camp the “roller coaster road.” It has more dizzying dips and bumps than a roller coaster, and makes even my stomach feel queasy as we speed by farmhouses and orchards. I silently checked off the landmarks as they went by: Upper Temple Road, Celebration Hill, Taylor’s Sawmill…then we arrived. I had no idea of the embarrassing moment that lay ahead.

*Lead #4*

That moment felt as if it lasted forever. As I stood on the mulched path, the neat rows of cabins before me, the stares of other campers and their parents behind me, I could imagine the week. No one would take the time to get to know me or figure out what I was like. Everyone would remember this one moment, this one most embarrassing moment, and would write me off as a hopeless loser.

(Emily Kissner 2008)