

The order of sentences in a scene/dialog:

A.

“Can I ask you something, Serena?”

“You can ask me anything,” Serena said solemnly, “and I’ll answer.”

“Okay, why would you move to this town?” I tasted the crème brûlée, which was creamy and sweet, the caramel spilling on my chin.

My husband was annoyed. “Linda!”

“It’s okay,” Serena said.

B.

“Can I ask you something, Serena?”

“You can ask me anything,” Serena said solemnly, “and I’ll answer.”

I tasted the crème brûlée, which was creamy and sweet, the caramel spilling on my chin. “Okay, why would you move to this town?”

My husband was annoyed. “Linda!”

“It’s okay,” Serena said.

Check out the different effect in these ordinary passages:

1. “It’s really yours,” she said, brushing her soft brown hair out of her eyes.
2. “It’s really yours.” She brushed soft brown hair out of her eyes.
3. “It’s really yours.” She brushed the hair out of her eyes.
4. She brushed some hair out of her eyes before saying, “It’s really yours.”
5. She brushed the hair out of her eyes. “It’s really yours,” she said.
6. She brushed the hair out of her eyes. “It’s really yours.”