

Document 1

Spider- Man

It began when Peter Parker was attending an exhibition about radiation technology. A spider crept into the beam of radiation and bit Peter's hand. They gave him superhuman spider-like abilities.

In the original comic book, Peter's new talents inspired him to invent his trusty webslingers, small jets attached to his wrists that fire a special polymer that hardens on contact with air.

Peter Parker lives with his Aunt May and works as a photographer for the Daily Bugle. But as Spider-Man, he fights evil in the dangerous, crime-ridden streets of New-York.

Document 2

Spider-Man

In Spider-Man's debut issue¹, the other kids in Peter Parker's high school class in Queens, New York call our hero "puny"² Parker. He is frail and shy, a pampered orphan who lives with his elderly Aunt May and Uncle Ben.

Peter visits a science exhibit on experiments in radio-activity. While there he is
5 bitten by a spider that has accidentally absorbed "a fantastic amount of radio-activity".
Feeling strange, the teenager steps aside. He is so
focused, his entire body charged with some sort of
fantastic energy, that he fails to see a car speeding
toward him. Peter leaps out of the way and that's
10 how he discovers he now possesses incredible
strength and can climb walls.

He realizes that the spider in some miraculous
way has transferred its own power to him! Peter
tests his new found abilities for prize money on the
wrestling³ ring. When he is successful he decides
15 to create a costumed alter ego for himself and go
into show business to help support his family.

Paul Kupperberg, *The Creation of Spider-Man* (2007)

1. first time Spider-Man appeared
in a comic book, in 1962

2. small, weak, not very impressive

3. a sport in which two people fight by holding
each other and trying to force the other one to the ground

Document 3

