

What is a lead?

A strong beginning that hooks readers and keeps them wanting to read.

Why is a strong lead important to your writing?

If you have a boring introduction, no one will continue to read your article.

Possible leads for stories include:

1. Setting
2. Action
3. Character
4. Reflection
5. Event
6. Dialogue

Read the following **leads** and determine if they are examples of setting, action, character, reflection, event, or dialogue.

“It was one of those super-duper cold Saturdays. One of those days that when you breathed out your breath kind of hung frozen in the air like a hunk of smoke and you could walk along and look exactly like a train blowing out big, fat, white puffs of smoke.”—
Christopher Paul Curtis, *The Watsons Go to Birmingham*
Setting

“The way I see it, things happen on 145th Street that don’t happen anywhere else in the world.”
--Walter Dean Myers, *145th Street*

“Billy Giles told his wife that he was just going to the gym to work out. If he’d told her the truth, that he was going to fight again, he knew she would have cried.”----
Walter Dean Myers, *Fighter*

“There comes a time when you’re losing a fight that it just doesn’t make sense to keep on fighting. It’s not that you’re being a quitter, it’s just that you’ve got the sense to know when enough is enough.”---Christopher Paul Curtis, Chapter 2, *Bud, Not Buddy*