

AP Lang Lead-Ins for Different Types of Quotes

Important things to remember

- Do not state appeals
- Do not state literary devices
- Ensure to include context (immediate occasion)
- Vary verb choice for each quote
- No longer than a sentence
- Identify the speaker



Examples of Lead-Ins

“I have a dream today. I have a dream that one day every valley shall be exalted [sic], every hill and mountain shall be made low, the rough places will be made plain, and the crooked places will be made straight, and the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together. **This is our hope.**” ‘I Have a Dream Speech’ - MLK

- ★ Poor lead-in: MLK uses logos when explaining “This is our hope.”
 - NEVER state an appeal in the lead-in.
 - Does not provide context to quote, passage, or MLK himself.
- ★ Effective lead-in: After discussing the goals of his social justice movement for racial equality, MLK states, “This is our hope.”
 - Provides relevant, detailed context to MLK’s ideas before the quote.
 - No appeals/literary devices in the lead-in, only immediate occasion information.

“We’re all in the same boat and we all are going to catch the same hell from the same man. He just happens to be a white man. All of us have suffered here, in this country, political oppression at the hands of the white man, economic exploitation at the hands of the white man, and social degradation **at the hands of the white man.**” ‘The Ballot or The Bullet’- Malcolm X

- ★ Poor lead-in: Malcolm X uses a declarative syntax to say “at the hands of the white man.”
 - NEVER state a literary term in the lead-in.
 - Did not provide context to quote, passage, or Malcolm X himself.
- ★ Effective lead-in: Within the speech, Malcolm X describes the hardships and oppression black citizens face, stating that abuse fell “at the hands of the white man.”