

Name: _____

Period: _____

Strong Leads

The _____ Lead:

Gathering Blue

By: Lois Lowry

“Mother?”

There was no reply. She hadn't expected one. Her mother had been dead now for four days, and Kira could tell that the last of the spirit was drifting away.

What do you notice about this lead? What makes it effective?

The _____ Lead:

Milkweed

By: Jerry Spinelli

I am running.

That's the first thing I remember. Running. I carry something, my arm curled around it, hugging it to my chest. Bread, of course. Someone is chasing me.

“Stop! Thief!”

I run.

People. Shoulders. Shoes.

“Stop! Thief!”

What do you notice about this lead? What makes it effective?

The _____ Lead:

California Blue

By: David Klaas

I don't know why running through a redwood forest has always made me think of death. It's not because I grew up in a mill town—I don't run between the trees seeing fivehundred-foot-tall piles of sawdust or neatly stacked lumber or endless reams of paper. And it's not because of the darkness where the old growth is thickest, although as I pounded along the narrow forest trail, the massive trees pressed in against each other in the twilight, and the smell of the wood and leaves was damp and lightly sweet and faintly bloodlike.

What do you notice about this lead? What makes it effective?

The _____ Lead:

The Hunger Games

By: Suzanne Collins

When I wake up, the other side of the bed is cold. My fingers stretch out, seeking Prim's warmth but finding only the rough canvas cover of the mattress. She must have had bad dreams and climbed in with our mother. Of course, she did. This is the day of the reaping.

What do you notice about this lead? What makes it effective?