

Writing Character Analyses

Write a Lead Sentence

Student: _____ Date: _____

Try out each lead strategy below. Let the examples inspire you as you write similar leads for your own topic.

1. Name the work and author and summarize its importance.

Ghost by Jason Reynolds tells the story of a middle-schooler running toward a better future.

2. Ask a compelling question about the character or theme.

Have you ever tried running away from a problem?

3. Start with something interesting the character thinks or says that also reveals what the character is like.

"Running ain't nothing I ever had to practice. It's just something I knew how to do." These are words of Castle Crenshaw (aka "Ghost") in the novel Ghost by Jason Reynolds.

4. Invite the reader to join the character's world.

Imagine a nightmare coming true in your very own apartment. It happened to Castle Crenshaw, and he's been running from the nightmare ever since.