**Leads**

1. **Dialogue**

“Climb the starved rock bluffs? You’ve gotta be kidding?” Joe’s spine tingled at the mere thought of trying to scale the sheer river bluffs in the state park. He looked Tony square in the eye. “Somebody got killed last year trying to do that! Don’t you remember?”

1. **Definition**

Heroes are people who sacrifice for others. By putting the needs of everyone else ahead of their own, heroes become larger than life. A hero is someone that we all look up to because they do things that the average man or woman refused to do.

1. **Snapshot (detailed description or scene that paints a picture)**

It’s ten degrees below zero and the river is frozen a foot thick. It makes snapping sounds like the limbs of trees cracking. A lone figure glides along the black ice, moving toward the city. The only sound is the scraping of each blade as it bites into the river.

1. **Personal Connection to the topic (how do you see the topic differently than others)**

People spend their whole lives searching for love. I was different. Until one day I decided to look in the cages at the local pound. And there was love, waiting for me.

1. **Flashback (begin in the middle of the action)**

With my bare hands, I finished mounding the dirt over Pepsi’s grave. Then I sat back, reflecting on the past and absorbing all that had happened.