

VERBS, VERBS, VERBS: A GUIDE TO STRENGTHENING YOUR WRITING**Strong Thesis Action Verbs**

Assume	Interpret	Diagnose	Descend
Justify	Contradict	Agree	Inform
Multiply	Challenge	Censure	Instruct
Denounce	Respond	Expose	Isolate
Account	Reinforce	Problematize	Succeed
Illuminate	Allege	Detect	Maintain
Review	Present	Manipulate	Question
Perceive	Conflict	Contend	Broaden
Link	Enable	Position	Recall
Address	Investigate	Guide	Clarify
Identify	Evaluate	Configure	Echo
Underscore	Distinguish	Depict	Enable

EXAMPLES:

By challenging modern conventions, forming her own movement, and staying true to her style, Atsuko Tanaka **reinforced** the idea of artistic individuality.

Veganism **is linked** to a lifestyle for the privilege when you consider that consumers with limited income don't have the time, money, or access for vegan foods.

In order to increase productivity, boost morale, and save money, companies **should agree** to six-hour workdays.

Naruto: Shippuden **can be evaluated** as a Shakespearean comedy because the show incorporates separation and reunification, involves mistaken identity, and ends in a marriage.

Strong Action Verbs to Introduce Quotes

According to Writes Refers to Responds	Remarked Said Observed Indicated	Argued that, Reinforced the idea; Countered with...
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EXAMPLES:

According to New York Times writer Bob Smith, “Los Angeles is the epitome of the American Dream.”

In the book *Movies and Reality*, author Bob Smith writes, “Los Angeles is the epitome of the American Dream” (98).

During an interview for Oprah, filmmaker Bob Smith remarked, “Los Angeles is the epitome of the American Dream.”

Los Angeles, observed Harvard film professor Bob Smith, “is the epitome of the American Dream.”

In the article “Monologues and Mono: Staying Healthy while Auditioning”, actor Bob Smith refers to Los Angeles as the “epitome of the American Dream.”

Strong Transition Phrases

<u>Addition</u>	<u>Illustrating</u>	<u>Contrasting</u>
<p>in addition to, furthermore, Moreover, Besides, equally important, Further, finally, not only _____ but also, as well as, in the second place, next, likewise, similarly, in fact, as a result, consequently, in the same way, thus, therefore, otherwise.</p>	<p>Thus, for example, for instance, namely, to illustrate, in other words, in particular, specifically, such as Above all, indeed, truly, of course, certainly, surely, in fact, really, in truth, again, besides, for example, for instance, especially, in particular, to explain, to list, to enumerate, in detail, including.</p>	<p>On the contrary, contrarily, notwithstanding, but, however, nevertheless, in spite of, in contrast, yet, on one hand, on the other hand, rather, or, nor, conversely, at the same time, while this may be true. Although, at any rate, at least, even though, granted that, while it may be true, in spite of,</p>

Strong Analysis Action Verbs

Persuade	Interpret	Diagnose	Clarify
Render	Contradict	Detect	Instruct
Expose	Challenge	Manipulate	Isolate
Conceal	Respond	Depict	Question
Pronounce	Distinguish	Enforce	Echo
Analyze	Enable	Trigger	Adapt
Characterize	Study	Expound	Elevate
Bolster	Scrutinize	Expand	Discuss
Instigate	Highlight	Fashion	Verify
Coach	Amplify	Initiate	Focus
Examine	Dismiss	Dramatize	Remain
Probe	Craft	Conceive	Conflate
Detach	Confirm	Rationalize	Feature
Conjecture	Emphasize	Form	Negate
Carry	Intensify	Shape	Obscure
Construct	Alter	Illustrate	Create
Transform	Attain	Augment	Accentuate
Represent	Disprove	Treat	Shroud
Identify	Reconfigure	Construct	Disclose
Carry		Transform	Disguise
		Represent	Authorize

EXAMPLES:

In other words, Los Angeles is a place where anyone, no matter their backgrounds, can achieve unimaginable success. This idea is present in *La La Land* because both Seb and Mia move to Los Angeles in order to succeed in their chosen fields: acting and music.

This quote illustrates the danger of simply walking into Mordor. Boromir rationalizes his argument that the journey ahead will be perilous. He conjectures that they will probably have to, at the very least, battle a few monsters to get into Mordor.

By saying “you shall not pass”, Gandalf shows his disapproval of Balrogs. His volume transforms the simple phrase into a command. This command intensifies the scene.

Naruto’s phrase “Believe it!” negates his lack of ability. Despite being the weakest ninja, his dialogue emphasizes his determination to succeed.