

## Action Verbs:

### Words for Signals & Introducing Quotations

This list of alternatives to the word “said” suggests the possibilities for indicating the context of a quotation, the attitude of the source, and your own point of view. Each word gives a quotation a slightly different meaning or emphasis; the words cannot be used interchangeably.

acknowledged	contended	inquired	recognized
acquiesced	contested	insinuated	recounted
added	continued	insisted	refuted
addressed	contradicted	interjected	regretted
admitted	counseled	interrogated	reiterated
advised	countered	intimated	rejoined
advocated	debated	lamented	related
affirmed	decided	lectured	remarked
agreed	declared	lied	reminded
alleged	decreed	maintained	remonstrated
announced	demanded	mentioned	repeated
answered	denied	narrated	replied
argued	denounced	noted	reported
articulated	described	objected	reprimanded
asked	dictated	observed	requested
assented	directed	ordered	responded
asserted	disclosed	petitioned	revealed
assured	divulged	pleaded	ruled
attested	elaborated	pointed out	stated
avowed	enjoined	preached	stipulated
begged	entreated	proclaimed	suggested
boasted	enunciated	pronounced	supplicated
bragged	equivocated	proposed	supposed
called	exclaimed	protested	swore
charged	exhorted	proved	talked
chided	explained	queried	testified
claimed	granted	questioned	thought
commanded	held	quibbled	told
commented	hesitated	quipped	translated
complained	hinted	quoted	urged
conceded	imparted	ranted	uttered
concluded	implored	read	vowed
concurred	indicated	reasoned	warned
confessed	inferred	rebutted	
confided	informed	recited	

- quotations should be brilliant comments, controversial statements, certain statistics, and personal testimony
- quotations should be succinct, memorable, powerful
- quote only when you can't say it any better
- make the quotation grammatically consistent with your text
- don't be a tour director