

# Interpretation Script Format Examples

## Examples

Click to see examples of a full [Format 1](#) and [Format 2](#) script.

## Sample Interpretation Script Elements

### Narrative Section

Added words that are not in the published literature selection are shown in bold. The name of the selection and the author are not bolded.

In 1942 C.S. Lewis introduced the world to a fictional demon mentor in his novel, *The Screwtape Letters*. Almost 20 years later, in 1959, Lewis once again penned a message in the evil voice of Screwtape, this time to warn democracies of a danger within. In “Screwtape Proposes a Toast,” C.S. Lewis exhorts free societies to value the pursuit of excellence and cherish God-given individualism.

### Format 1 Script

The typed script shows exactly and only the words that the speaker will say.

You will be attached as Tempters to private persons. Democracy is the word with which you must lead them by the nose. The good work which our experts have already done in the corruption of human language makes it unnecessary to warn you that they should never be allowed to give this word a clear and definable meaning.

They won't.

You are to use the word purely as an incantation; if you like, purely for its selling power. It is a name they venerate. And of course, it is connected with the political ideal that men should be equally treated. You then make a stealthy transition in their minds from this political ideal to a feeling which prompts a man to say I'm as good as you.

### Format 2 Script

This format is made up of copies of the pages from the literature selection with the words that are used in the script highlighted.

Such was our counter-attack on one level. You, who are mere beginners, will not be entrusted with work of that kind. You will be attached as Tempters to private persons. Against them, or through them, our counter-attack takes a different form.

Democracy is the word with which you must lead them by the nose. The good work which our philological experts have already done in the corruption of human language makes it unnecessary to warn you that they should never be allowed to give this word a clear and definable meaning. They won't. It will never occur to them that Democracy is properly the name of a political system, even a system of voting, and that this has only the most remote and tenuous connection with what you are trying to sell them. Nor, of course, must they ever be allowed to raise Aristotle's question: whether 'democratic behaviour' means the behaviour that democracies like or the behaviour that will preserve a democracy. For if they did, it could hardly fail to occur to them that these need not be the same.

You are to use the word purely as an incantation; if you like, purely for its selling power. It is a name they venerate. And of course it is connected with the political ideal that men should be equally treated. You then make a stealthy transition in their minds from this political ideal to a factual belief that all men are equal. Especially the man you are working on. As a result you can use the word Democracy to sanction in his thought the most degrading (and also the least enjoyable) of all human feelings. You can get him to practise, not only without shame but with a positive glow of self-approval, conduct which, if undefended by the magic word, would be universally derided.

The feeling I mean is of course that which prompts a man to say I'm as good as you.

290 / THE COMPLETE C.S. LEWIS SIGNATURE CLASSICS