The Quote Sandwich

**Guidelines for Quotations:**

To ensure that your reader fully understands how the quote you are using supports your thesis, you must smoothly incorporate the quote into your paragraph; otherwise, your reader may be left unsure of why you used the quote. The “**quote sandwich**” is a method that aids you in effectively adding quotes. See below for a further explanation.

**Introduce It!**

Before adding your quote introduce it with a

**signal phrase**

or a

**marker verb**

(

see

the marker verb handouts).

Ex: The article

**explains**

that …

**Quotation +**

**Citation!**

After you have introduced your quote with a

**signal phrase**

or

**marker verb**

add in your quote.

Ex: The author

 **explains**

 that “Franklin’s voracious capacity for knowledge, investigation and finding

practical solutions to problems” resulted in ma

ny inventions that benefited early American communities.

**Explain**

**It!**

Now that you’ve added in your quote,

**explain**

why the quote is important. What do

you think it means? How does it connect to your topic sentence and thesis? (Your

explanation should be at least as long, or longer that the quotation itself.

**Introducing Quotations[[1]](#footnote-1)**

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To guarantee that your reader clearly follows your reading, you should introduce your quotes with a signal phrase or marker verb rather than simply plopping the quote down. If you add in a quote without any sort of introduction, your reader may not understand how the quote connects to your paragraph even if it makes sense to you (think of it as a similar to a random thought in a conversation).

Below are some examples of signal phrases and maker verbs that you can use to introduce your quotes:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Signal Phrases**  |  | **Marker Verbs**  |
| • • • • • •   | According to… In her article… In the opinion of … (Author’s name) shows that… (Author’s name) argues that… (Author’s name) + (a marker verb from the right)  | Acknowledges Agrees Believes Compares Denies Endorses Implies Observes Refutes Responds  | Writes Adds Argues Claims Confirms disputes Grants  Insists Points out Rejects Suggests  | Admits Asserts Comments Declares Emphasizes Illustrates Notes Reasons Reports Thinks  |

***For Example*:**

Dwight Bolinger notes that “in a society where women and farmers are regarded as inferior, sex differences and occupational differences become class differences” (99).

Malcolm X writes, “I was so fascinated that I went on- I copied the dictionary’s next page. And the same experience came when I studied that. With every succeeding page, I also learned of people and places and events from history” (89).

Elizabeth Wong comments that “The Language was a source of embarrassment. More times than not, I had tried to dissociate myself from the nagging loud voice that followed me wherever I wandered in the nearby American supermarket outside Chinatown” (291).

# Punctuating Quotes

In addition to incorporating quotes with the **quote sandwich**, and introducing them with **signal phrases** and **marker verbs**, there are a few punctuation rules to keep in mind.

The **first time** you reference an article (or other text) you need to give the **full names(s) of the author(s), the title of the article, and the name of the magazine or book or website.**

## Introduce the Author

The first time you use a quote from an article, you need to use the author’s **first and last name**. (The next time you use a quote from that author, only use the **last name**.)

## How to Punctuate Titles

**Put the name of articles, essays, poems, essays, and chapters in quotation marks:**

“Dialect” “Talking Like a Lady”

“Mountains as Islands” “The Farmer Revolutionary”

**Underline or italicize titles of books, movies, magazines, newspapers, periodicals, and musical albums:**

San Francisco Chronicle *San Francisco Chronicle*

The Great Gatsby *The Great Gatsby*

The Sagebrush Ocean *The Sagebrush Ocean*

The White Album *The White Album*

## The Quote Itself

* Put quotation marks “quote” around the quote and use the author’s **exact words**.
* After the quote, put the page number in parentheses, and the period ***after*** the parentheses.

Example: “This is how your quotation will look” (66).

## Other Notes

* **Insert ellipses (…) wherever you delete any words from the original quotation.**

Example: “If someone cuts down a tree… he will pay for it” (line 7).

* **Use brackets ([ ]) to add words or substitute words or letters in the original quotation.**

Example: “From these meetings [Jefferson] gained a heightened appreciate of the arts, fine wines, music, politics, philosophy, and science” (17).

**Lastly…ADD IN YOUR EXPLANATION!**

Once you’ve made sure to punctuate your quotes correctly, explain them!!! (the last part of the quote sandwich).

1. Adapted from Deanza Community College Writing Center Tutorials. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)