

PROSE QUOTATIONS

When quoting a passage that is four lines or less, just insert it inside of the paper using quotation marks. If there is no parenthetical documentation being used, put the punctuation marks inside the quotation marks.

... as stated in his book, "Spider-Man was a hit because it involved a teenager who had problems."

If parenthetical documentation is being used, the in-text goes after the quotation marks and the end mark punctuation goes after the in-text.

We can all learn from Yoda, "Do or do not. There is no try" (Lucas).

When a quote is more than four lines, it should be set in block quotes. This means that each line is indented on both sides and there are no quotation marks used. Usually (but not always) the quote is introduced by a colon.

One can see a similarity in myths from different cultures that makes one wonder how so many cultures can believe the same things:

Legends from different cycles and different parts of the world often contain striking parallels and similarities, or sometimes interesting variants. Parallels crop up constantly in stories of the supernatural birth of heroes (Cavendish 10).

QUOTING POETRY AND SONG LYRICS

If you quote a single line of poetry or a partial line, just put quotation marks around it and insert it into your text.

When Phil Collins is depressed he only needs to, "take a look at you" (Collins).

To quote more than one lines, but no more than three, use a slash to separate the lines of poetry.

Phil Collins way of handling depression is to, "take a look at you/ then I'm not so blue" (Collins).

In order to cite from a play, use the act, scene, verse rather than page numbers.

In Shakespeare's Julius Caesar, Antony says of Brutus: "This was the noblest Roman of them all" (5.5.74).

If quoting verse more than three lines, begin each new verse on a new line. Indent the left margin.

Macbeth's anguish can be seen after Lady Macbeth commits suicide in his famous monologue,

Tomorrow, and tomorrow, and tomorrow
Creeps in this petty pace from day to day,
To the last syllable of recorded time;
And all our yesterdays have lighted fools
The way to dusty death (5.5.19-23)

“

Quoting

”

The first rule of quoting is not to quote. Avoid it. However, if you need to or feel that it will enhance your paper, there are certain rules to follow.

Make sure you do not over quote. The quotes you choose should be interesting, vivid, or be very important to how that phrase is worded.

When you quote, you must quote exactly. You cannot clean up the quote, change any words, spelling, grammar errors, etc. If you are quoting an error, you include [sic] after the error to alert the reader that the error is from the original, not you.

“There are many ways in which Spiderman [sic] is propelled to do heroic acts.”

If you feel that you must place emphasis on a particular word, you must alert the reader that the emphasis is your addition, and not a part of the original quote.

“...the *right of the people* to keep and bear arms” (emphasis added).

When you need to omit any part of a quote, you must not alter the meaning of the quote (you cannot leave out the word “not” to change the speaker’s meaning) and you must not change the speaker’s intention. If you do so, you include an ellipsis to show deleted material.

Original:

“Individual commitment to a group effort – that is what makes a team work, a civilization work.”

Quoted with omission:

“Individual commitment to a group effort – that is what makes ... a civilization work.”

If a pronoun or any other word is unclear, you may add clarification in square brackets.

“He [Michael Jordan] is undeniably the best to ever play the game [basketball].”

If quote marks are used inside of the quote, then the quote marks that are inside the quote should be single quotes.

Hamilton always gave advice, such as, “Always wear clean underwear, like my momma used to say, ‘You never know when you’ll be in a wreck.’”