

## Embedding Evidence & Analyzing It:

There are two types of quotations:

- **Direct quotations:** exact words of an authority or words taken directly from the text and must be identified in your paper with quotation marks and documented correctly
- **Indirect quotations:** a paraphrase of the text or restatement of a thought expressed by someone else that is written in your own style and still needs to be documented

### Some things to remember:

- **YOUR OWN WORDS SHOULD CLEARLY DOMINATE.** You are in control, not your evidence. If you rely heavily on other people's words, then you are not writing the paper – they are.
- **KNOW WHEN TO USE QUOTATIONS...AND CHOOSE THEM CAREFULLY.** Be sure that your evidence selected is exactly what you want to prove or say. Think about what you are using for evidence and pick and choose words from text to only reflect what you want.
- **ALWAYS USE YOUR OWN WORDS BETWEEN QUOTATIONS.** The reader needs to know how you are connecting the ideas, so you need to provide your own link between quotations. **NEVER** use quotations back to back without your own linking words.
- **DISCUSS YOUR QUOTATIONS.** Don't just pop in a quotation and run. Introduce the quotation so that the reader knows its relevance to your text, then discuss its significance in the context of your paper. The longer the quotation, the more likely you need to double the number of your own words to discuss it.
- **EVIDENCE SHOULD NEVER STAND ALONE.** Don't have a sentence consist only of your evidence. Introduce

### To introduce the evidence:

- Try to avoid speaker tags (Ex: *When Proctor says, "I believe her"...* - the speaker tag is *Proctor says* etc.) Find other ways to say it (Ex: *Proctor tells his wife he "believes her" to be truthful.*) Some options are:
  - Add
  - Remark
  - Comment
  - Write
  - Declare
  - Observe
  - Suggest
  - Complain
  - Respond
  - Remark
  - Predict
  - Propose

Show me the...

## Evidence

Use the following to provide Evidence for your Reading Responses:

- Because...
- For instance...
- For example...
- The author stated...
- According to the text...
- On page \_\_, it said...
- From the reading, I know that...
- Based on what I read...

### To embed the evidence:

- One way to incorporate a quote is to lead into it with a colon. The colon announces that a quote will follow to provide evidence for the claim
  - Example: Hamlet denies Rosencrantz's claim that thwarted ambition caused his depression: "I could be bounded in a nutshell and count myself a king of infinite space" (*Hamlet* 2.2).
- Another way is by attributing the quote to the speaker – although it is best to avoid "says" (see above). Interrupt the quote with an attribution to the speaker to vary your syntax.
  - Example: "There is nothing good or bad," Hamlet argues, "but thinking makes it so" (*Hamlet* 2.2)
- Use the words of the quote grammatically within your own sentence. This way is the best. Use fragments of the quote and embed them into your own sentences.
  - Example: When Hamlet tells Rosencrantz that he, "could be bound in a nutshell and count [himself] a king of infinite space" (*Hamlet* 2.2), he implies that thwarted ambition did not cause his depression.
  - Example: Hamlet realized that "There is nothing good or bad" (*Hamlet* 2.2), and that it is how a person deals with life and what it brings that determines the good and bad of life.

### To punctuate the evidence:

- Capitalize the beginning of the quote when it is something a character is saying; if it is part of a sentence not stated by a character, it does not have to be capitalized
- Copy the words of the quote exactly as they are in the text. Any changes you make within a quote need to be bracketed (Ex: if the quote says: "*Whenever you feel like criticizing someone, just remember that all the people in this world haven't had the advantages that you've had*" can be changed to: "*Whenever you feel like criticizing someone, just remember [there are] people [who] haven't had the advantages that you've had.*")

### To cite the evidence:

- At the end of the sentence containing the quote, place the author's last name and page number of the quote in parentheses followed by a period.

### To analyze the evidence:

- In no less than two sentences (but three or more are better!!!), explain why the evidence presented is effectively proving the argument of the paper
- DON'T use phrases such as: "this shows" or "this proves" or "this means that" and DON'T tell what the quote is saying (don't paraphrase the quote)