

Embedding Quotes

When you use an author's text in your responses, you must always remember to give credit where credit is due. Failure to do so results in plagiarism and a grade of

ZERO.

So, how do we use quotes properly? A simple method to follow is by coming up with your own sentence where you can embed the quote.

1. Be careful when wording your sentence.
2. Always make sure that whatever follows the end of the quote makes sense with what started the sentence.

Method:

If we follow this simple method of
Your Own Words "Embedded Quote" Your Own Words (Author, Page #)
then we have not only successfully used textual evidence, but also created an easy flow for reading.

As you're composing future short-answers, always leave the quotes for the **PROOF** section of **Answer Proof Extension (APE Method)**.

Example #1:

Even though "he had become the sort of courageous commander who could ask his men to die for him, confident in knowledge that they would follow him", Travis was only able to gather eighteen men to aid the 120-130 defenders (Frantz, 141).

In the example, we have original words to introduce the quote and original words which follow to end it. Every time you use textual evidence, you must structure the sentence to flow normally.

Example #2:

The men he commanded believed "he was such a leader by nature that he needed no official rank to command" thus lending further credit to [Jim] Bowie's effectiveness in the battle for Texan independence (Dobie, 43).

Notice how much shorter this quote was than in the first example. If you are able to condense a chosen passage down to a more manageable size, then your sentence will look professional and avoid losing the reader's interest.

Example #3:

Witnesses "generally believed that he [Bowie] died with Bowie knife in hand...back braced against the wall" until several Mexican soldiers either shot and/or stabbed him to death (Dobie, 45).

Something is different about this quote.

Recognize the ellipsis in between '*hand*' and '*back*'? This indicates that the quote used is actually longer than what was used. Writers will often utilize this method when the beginning and end of the quote work with the sentence, but the middle is much too long.

Keep in mind that, sometimes, a quote *can* end a sentence. As long as it makes grammatical/logical sense.

Example #4:

During the Battle of the Alamo, "Bonham most probably died atop the Alamo chapel working one of the cannons...trying to take as many Mexicans with him as possible" (Procter, 27).

The Bottom Line...

Don't fall prey to including just the quote and attempt to pass it off as a sentence. Do what you can to include *your own original words* to either introduce the quote or lead it out.