

## Guidelines for Integrating Quotations

To ensure that the reader fully understands how a quote supports your thesis, you must smoothly incorporate the quote into your paragraph; otherwise, your reader will be left unsure of why you used the quote at all. The following guidelines can help you effectively add quotes into your paper.

### Introduce the Quote

Introduce your quote with a signal phrase and a reporting verb.  
Example: Susan Sontag argues that...

### Quote

Then, add your quote.  
Example: Susan Sontag argues that “photographs alter and enlarge our notions of what is worth looking at and what we have the right to observe” (3).

### Explain the Quote

After adding your quote, explain the quote. What does it mean?  
How does it connect to your argument? Your explanation should be as long or longer than the quote.

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## Introducing Quotes

If you add a quote without any sort of introduction, your reader may not understand how the quote connects to the rest of your paragraph. Signal phrases and reporting verbs can be used to introduce quotes and connect quotes to the rest of your body paragraph.

### Signal Phrases

According to...  
 In her/ his article...  
 In the opinion of (author's last name)...  
 (Author's name) suggests that...  
 (Author's name) argues that...  
 (Author's name) + (reporting verb)

### Reporting Verbs

acknowledges	declares	points out
adds	denies	reasons
admits	disputes	refutes
agrees	emphasizes	rejects
argues	endorses	reports
asserts	grants	responds
believes	illustrates	suggests
claims	implies	thinks
comments	insists	writes
compares	notes	
confirms	observes	

### Examples:

Malcolm X writes, “I woke up the next morning, thinking about those words—immensely proud to realize that not only had I written so much at one time, but I’d written words that I never knew were in the world. Moreover, with a little effort, I also could remember what many of these words meant” (89).

Lydia Davis discusses the “demand for the densest, briefest, most compressed of stories...and these were shared and circulated freely and spontaneously” (9).

In his article “On Laundromats”, George Grylls points out, “Monday was the designated washing day [in the Lower East Side] when the whole community would share in what was a miserable chore” (18).

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