

ENGLISH II PRE-AP GRAMMAR, USAGE, AND MECHANICS

Packet 1: Embedding Quotations into Your Writing

Embedding snippets of quotes is the best way to incorporate and embed quotations within your own sentences. These snippets are shorter than the original quote, allowing you to use your own words to paraphrase or summarize. In addition, the use of snippets when embedding improves sentence fluency. What is a snippet? It is a portion of the original quote.

The following excerpts come from the novel *Of Mice and Men* by John Steinbeck:

Original Quote: “I ought to have shot that dog myself, George, I shouldn’t ought to have let no stranger shoot my dog”
Snippet of quote: “I ought to have shot that dog myself” (Steinbeck 27).

Embedding a quote directly at the beginning of a sentence should *NOT* occur.

Each sentence should start with your own words.

Embedding a quote in the middle of a sentence:

Candy confesses to George and Lennie that he “should have shot that dog” himself, and further notes that he regrets allowing a stranger to do it (Steinbeck 27).

Embedding a quote at the end of a sentence (also referred to using a lead-in phrase):

Candy reveals to George his deep regret when he laments that, “[he] should have shot that dog [himself]” (Steinbeck 27).

Embedding several snippets of the quote throughout your sentence:

Candy suffers not only from grief, but from remorse as he reveals the knowledge that he “should have shot that dog” himself and that he “shouldn’t ought to [have] let no stranger” shoot his long time companion (Steinbeck 27).

USING BRACKETS AND THE ELLIPSIS

BRACKETS [] allow you to do two things: **1.** Change the author’s original wording when needed (as in the second example above). **2.** Add words for fluency or clarity (as in the third example above).

ELLIPSIS (three dots ...) allows you to delete a word or words from the original longer quote. **NOTE:** You do not need them at the beginning or end of a quote, even if you eliminate words. This is considered a snippet.

Example 1: Changing the author’s original wording for better fluency.

Candy realizes that he “should have shot that dog [himself]” (Steinbeck 27).
What is the change from the original quote? _____

Example 2: Adding words to the author’s original wording

Candy states to George, “I should have shot that dog myself, George. I shouldn’t ought to of let no stranger [Carlson] shoot my dog” (Steinbeck 27).
What has been changed? _____

WHEN DO I USE A COMMA, AND WHEN DO I NOT?

If the quote is an integral part of the sentence and is formally introduced, use a comma.

Example: According to Percy Shelley, “Poets are the unacknowledged legislators of the world.”

If the quote is an integral part of the sentence but is not formally introduced, do NOT use a comma.

Example: Shelley looked at poets as “the unacknowledged legislators of the world.”

If the quote is not an integral part of the sentence and is not formally introduced, use a colon to introduce it.

Example: Shelley held a bold view: “Poets are the unacknowledged legislators of the world.”

Instructions: Practice the skill of embedding quotations into your own sentences by completing each of the items below.

Use the following analysis and quote from *Ender's Game* and embed quotes as directed:

Ender needs to reassure his team and push them forward. His speech is meant to inspire and grant a reality check to the boys with whom he must work.

Quotation: “‘It’s plain we can’t count on old ways of doing things.’ Ender said. ‘So you’d better plan on battles anytime. And often. I can’t pretend I like the way they’re screwing around with us, but I do like one thing—that I’ve got an army that can handle it’” (Card 185).

Embed the quote into the middle of a sentence. Highlight the section of the quote.

Embed the quote into the end of a sentence. Highlight the section of the quote.

Embed snippets from the quote throughout your sentence. Highlight the snippets.

Instructions: Practice the skill of embedding quotations into your own sentences by completing each of the items below.

Use the following analysis and quote from *The Hobbit* and embed quotes as directed:

Tolkien immediately transports his readers into the world of Middle Earth. Without being introduced to character names, or being specifically told which place he has taken the reader, the author lets them know about the Hobbit and his world.

Quotation: “In a hole in the ground there lived a hobbit. Not a nasty, dirty, wet hole, filled with the end of worms and an oozy smell, nor yet a dry, bare, sandy hole with nothing in it to sit down on or to eat: it was a hobbit-hole, and that means comfort” (Tolkien 1).

Embed the quote into the middle of a sentence. Highlight the section of the quote.

Embed the quote into the end of a sentence. Highlight the section of the quote.

Embed snippets from the quote throughout your sentence. Highlight the snippets.

Instructions: Practice the skill of embedding quotations into your own sentences by completing each of the items below.

Use the following analysis and quote from “The Cask of Amontillado” and embed quotes as directed:

The narrator of this short story builds suspense and terror throughout the telling. From imagery, to specific word choice, the mood continues to grow. Even until the final moments of the tale, the reader is not fully sure of what the narrator will do.

Quotation: “No answer still. I thrust a torch through the remaining aperture and let it fall within. There came forth in return only a jingling of the bells. My heart grew sick -- on account of the dampness of the catacombs. I hastened to make an end of my labour. I forced the last stone into its position; I plastered it up. Against the new masonry I re-erected the old rampart of bones. For the half of a century no mortal has disturbed them.” (Poe 10).

Embed the quote into the middle of a sentence. Highlight the section of the quote.

Embed the quote into the end of a sentence. Highlight the section of the quote.

Embed snippets from the quote throughout your sentence. Highlight the snippets.

Instructions: Practice the skill of embedding quotations into your own sentences by completing each of the items below.

Use the following analysis and quote from *Romeo and Juliet* and embed quotes as directed:

Romeo has not seen Juliet but once, yet he already has strong feelings for her. He uses a metaphor to describe just how beautiful she is, and how her beauty effects those around her.

Quotation: “‘But soft, what light through yonder window breaks?
It is the East, and Juliet is the sun.
Arise, fair sun, and kill the envious moon,
Who is already sick and pale with grief
That thou, her maid, art far more fair than she.’” (*Rom.* 2.2.2-6)

Embed the quote into the middle of a sentence. Highlight the section of the quote.

Embed the quote into the end of a sentence. Highlight the section of the quote.

Embed snippets from the quote throughout your sentence. Highlight the snippets.
