

## APSU Writing Center Basic Rules for Quoting

### What are Quotation Marks?

- Quotation marks are punctuation marks used in pairs in various writing systems to identify direct speech, a quotation, or a phrase. (“,” & ‘,’)

### When should you quote?

- To create credibility to your argument by including supplementary resources.
- To indicate when another person’s words are being used within your own writing.
- To indicate the title of short works, such as articles, poems, and stories.

### How to use quotation marks

- Quoted material is used to support your ideas/thesis and needs to be relevant to your topic.
- Introduce your quoted material by writing either the authors name or the title of the work.
- Introduce the quotation and explain to your reader why you have included it and how it relates to, and helps to build, your argument. This is known as **framing** or a **quote sandwich**. It directs your reader’s attention to the specific elements of the quotation that are most directly relevant to your own arguments and ideas.

### Framing Example

- Citing the islands of Fiji as a case in point, Bordo notes that “until television was introduced in 1995, the islands had no reported cases of eating disorders. In 1998, three years after programs from the United States and Britain began broadcasting there, 62 percent of the girls surveyed reported dieting” (149-50). Bordo’s point is that the Western cult of dieting is spreading even to remote places across the globe.[3]

### Quote Sandwich

- **Top Bread:** Provides context & Signal Phrases
- **Filling:** Provides the in-text citation
- **Bottom Bread:** Explains the significance of the quoted materials

### Author name in the text:

- **Example:** In Mary Shelley’s *Frankenstein*, it is said, “I ought to be thy Adam; but I am rather the fallen angel” (Chapter 10). Here, Shelley has made a reference to the biblical story of the fallen angel.
- **Example:** Harper Lee writes as the character Atticus Fitch in *To Kill a Mockingbird*, giving advice to his young daughter in the famous line, “You never really understand a person until you consider things from his point of view... until you climb inside of his skin and walk around in it” (36).

### Author name in the quotation:

- **Example:** “You never really understand a person until you consider things from his point of view... Until you climb inside of his skin and walk around in it” (Lee 36).

### Ellipses

- If you find a long quote and only want to use certain parts, you can omit unnecessary wording by using ellipses (...)
  - **Example:** In his novel *Oliver Twist*, Charles Dickens conveys panic through repetitive language. When Oliver’s mother dies, the nurse laments, “Ah, poor dear, so it is... Poor dear!” (3).



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**References**

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