

QUOTE INTEGRATION (AKA The “Quote Sandwich”)

Does your teacher comment on your paper telling you to “expand analysis” or “work on quote integration”? Then this info will help!

After a topic sentence, follow these steps when you integrate a quote into a body paragraph:

1. **Introduce the quote--who said it, when, and if relevant, where? (see red below)**

Do this in 1-2 sentences.

Example: The poverty of the peasants can be seen after the wine has spilled in the streets of Saint Antoine, and the people are desperate to drink it any way they can. Dickens describes this desperation, writing,

2. **Give the quote with the correct citation. (see blue below)**

Example: “Others, men and women, dipped in the puddles with little mugs of mutilated earthenware, or even with handkerchiefs from women’s heads, which were squeezed dry into infants’ mouths. . . .” (Dickens 33).

3. **Analyze the quote. Do this in about 2-5 sentences. Analysis is the most important part of the “quote sandwich”! (see purple below)**

What does it mean to analyze the quote?

- It means you explain why the quote supports the point you are trying to make.

So, how do you explain the quote? Do any combination of or all of these:

- Paraphrase the quote.
- Extend the meaning of the quote.
- Focus on or repeat a key word(s) from the quote.
- Tell the reader how the quote proves your point BUT without ever using the words “This quote shows. . .” or “This quote proves. . . .” Reread your thesis and your topic sentence for the paragraph if you are stuck with this.

Example: The peasants will do anything to get a few sips of wine. When the wine spills, they stop whatever they have been doing just for a taste of it; whatever cups they may have are “mutilated.” They have been so abused by the French aristocracy that they are left starving and in extreme poverty. Because of how difficult their lives are, a little bit of dirty wine is cause for a great deal of excitement for the poor people.

So, put these 3 steps together and you have a nice, smoothly integrated quote.

YOUR TOPIC SENTENCE WOULD GO HERE. **The poverty of the peasants can be seen after the wine has spilled in the streets of Saint Antoine, and the people are desperate to drink it any way they can. Dickens describes this desperation, writing, “Others, men and women, dipped in the puddles with little mugs of mutilated earthenware, or even with handkerchiefs from women’s heads, which were squeezed dry into infants’ mouths. . . .” (Dickens 33).** The peasants will do anything to get a few sips of wine. When the wine spills, they stop whatever they have been doing just for a taste of it; whatever cups they may have are “mutilated.” They have been so abused by the French aristocracy that they are left starving and in extreme poverty. Because of how difficult their lives are, a little bit of dirty wine is cause for a great deal of excitement for the poor people.