Practice Integrating Quotes (“Sandwiching” Quotes)

Before  
--clarify the context of the quote  
--prepare the reader for how the quote works as evidence to support your thesis and reason

After the quote  
--clarify the meaning of the quote as evidence and its significance for supporting your thesis and reason

Example Essay Scenario  
Essay Question: Are algorithms in the hands of Google, Facebook, and Amazon dangerous?  
Thesis/Claim: Algorithms in the hands of Google, Facebook, and Amazon are extremely dangerous.  
Body Paragraph Topic/Transition/Linking Sentence “signposting” the argument (the “Argument Statement containing the CLAIM + REASON)

These companies use of algorithms is dangerous because these algorithms are thinking for us.

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| **Textual Evidence Supporting Reason (WHAT IT SAYS—the quote)** | **Explanation of How the Quote is Showing or Proving the Reason to be True (WHAT IT MEANS? HOW IT MATTERS?)** |
| “The problem is that when we outsource thinking to machines, we are really outsourcing thinking to the organizations that run the machines.” (65) | Of course there is a human behind the making of algorithms, and that means that whoever is programming the algorithms is the one really making the decisions and thinking for us. In this case, it is a company. How do we know these companies can be trusted to make our choices? Don’t companies work in their own self-interest to make a profit? We are letting someone we don’t even know think for us and we don’t know what morals or values they hold dear, if any. These companies are more beholden to their shareholders than to any general public good, much less our individual good. |

After the transition sentence below, seek to “sandwich” this quote above as your first secondary support of the paragraph:

First, these companies use of algorithms is dangerous because these algorithms are thinking for us.

First, these companies use of algorithms is dangerous because these algorithms are thinking for us. As Foer points our, algorithms may seem objective and innocent, but they actually reflect the intentions and will of the companies that make the algorithms: “The problem is that when we outsource thinking to machines, we are really outsourcing thinking to the organizations that run the machines” (65). Foer makes the important point that we need to remember that corporations and the algorithms they create are behind the magical apps and websites we let think for us and “assist” us, and we need to remember that companies operate in their own self-interest, typically for profits, not our interests.