

EXAMPLE OF INTEGRATING AND DOCUMENTING QUOTATIONS

The emergence of postmodernism and its reconceived notion of the subject (that is, “the writer who writes”) challenged invention and put it on the defensive (Atwill and Lauer xvi). John Clifford in his essay “The Subject in Discourse” summarizes the 20th century critique of the traditional humanist view of the writer that underlay many of the assumptions of invention within the writing process held by the composition revivalists of the 1960s and 1970s. Clifford restates this view and the basis for its undercutting:

For the traditional humanist, the writer has always been seen as a creative individual, the locus of significance, the originator of meaning, an autonomous being, aware of ends and means, of authorial intentions and motivations. [...] but rarely is the writer thought of as the site of contradiction, as being written by social or psychological forces that might diminish the clarity of consciousness or the singularity of individual intentions. (39)

Agency for determining meaning and intentions lies outside the individual rather than inside the individual’s consciousness so that the writer is written by these forces. Clifford summarizes succeeding waves of critique of the autonomous self from structuralism, to psychological criticism, to post-structuralism: “As a result, the independent and private consciousness formerly endowed with plenitude and presence, with a timeless and transcultural essence, becomes in postmodern thought a decentered subject constantly being called on to inhabit overdetermined positions, the implications of which can be only dimly grasped by a consciousness written by multiple, shifting codes” (40-41). Michel Foucault in *The Archeology of Knowledge* expressed a particularly influential postmodern critique of the “autonomous subject.” Writing, or discourse, is not created and invented (“regulated”) by the writer; instead discourse and social forces outside the writer determine the writer and his or her text (55). In short, traditional notions of invention heralded by Young and other early composition scholars are impossible from the postmodern position. If a new bibliographic essay on the studies in invention by our field were published today, it would be hard pressed to fill thirty-eight pages as Young did in 1987. As Atwill and Lauer note, interest in invention waned and all but disappeared in the 1990s to the marginalized place it holds today (*Rhetorical Invention* 2).

Set up quote

Colon to set up quote

Long quote
--indented 10 spaces from left, no use of quotes

Sentence after quote clarifying its significance/meaning

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Paraphrase.
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