

The Art of Integrating and Setting Up Quotes

Resources for learning how to handle other people's words and ideas inside your own:

- Irvin Using Quotes Guide (with links to the Sandwich Principle):
<http://www.lirvin.net/WGuides/quotes.htm>
- SFH chapter 46 and 47
- Trimble chpt. 14
- Verbs of Attribution guide (from UT-Austin Writing Center):
<http://uwc.utexas.edu/wp-content/handouts/Verbs-of-Attribution.pdf>
- Listen to [audio version of this guide](#)

To integrate quotes effectively inside your own writing for both meaning and evidence, you should “sandwich” your quotes (i.e. follow the Sandwich Principle).

BEFORE THE QUOTATION

1. Give the context of the quotation (where appropriate). Who said it? Where did it come from and when?
2. Prepare the reader for what the quotation will be demonstrating or proving.

AFTER THE QUOTATION

1. Make sure the significance of the quotation is clear in relation to the main idea of the paragraph and the essay. Comment on and clarify the meaning of the quote.

Examples

Wrong Sandwich

I nodded my head in agreement at his words. I had done some research on the topic for prior government and economics classes. In fact, ²in 2007, two-thirds of American adults had higher family incomes than their parents did in the late 1960s and early '70s, although a third were worse off. Times have changed greatly in the past 5 years, but one-third is still a vast

NO set up of the quote is done at all. The directly borrowed words are not even placed inside quotation marks. This is a big NO NO NO! Big NO NO!

Right Sandwich

I nodded my head in agreement at his words. ... In fact, according to Frank Jones in a May 2012 article from the New York Times titled, “American Family Incomes,” we see information that counters Bill’s perceptions of income for families in America: “in 2007, two-thirds of American adults had higher family incomes than their parents did in the late 1960s and early ‘70s [although] a third were worse off.” Times have changed greatly in the past five years, but as this quotes shows we still are better off than the previous generation.

Wrong Sandwich

Justin's family is not the only family affected by this issue. According to <http://www.socialsecurity.gov/history/pdf/RowlandandLyons.pdf>, "many elderly Americans continue to struggle to pay living expenses on low or modest incomes." This statement proves that even if there is health care or Medicare provided, it is not enough to coincide with the income of the elderly. It IS in fact a major problem. "It has been estimated that the typical older couple may need to save \$300,000 to pay for health care costs not covered by Medicare alone" was a statement issued by the health reform website itself.

<http://www.healthreform.gov/reports/seniors/index.html>

AVOID inserting the web address into your paper.

- instead, cite the author, title, date as you set up your quote
- after the quote for in-text citation you need the author's last name and in-source location (if you cite the author in your set up, you don't need the in-text citation after the quote typically)

NEVER drop the quote as an independent sentence.

- instead, create a set up phrase or clause for the quote that ends in a comma or colon.
- include the attribution for the quote and citation information (Context of the quote) BEFORE the quote, not after it.

Don't throw in the web address after the quote as a form of in-text citation.

- instead, create a proper in-text citation using parenthesis (if appropriate for the source)

Right Sandwich

Justin's family is not the only family affected by this issue. According to Diane Rowland and Barbara Lyons in a 1996 article inside *Health Care Financing Review* titled, "Medicare, Medicaid, and the Elderly Poor," the economic tensions are very present in America: "many elderly Americans continue to struggle to pay living expenses on modest incomes." This statement proves that even if there is health care or Medicare provided, it is not enough to coincide with the income of the elderly. Likewise the government's web information site, HealthReform.gov, in its informational website titled, "America's Seniors and Health Insurance Reform: Protecting Coverage and Strengthening Medicare," cites research about the high out of pocket expenses seniors even with Medicare can expect to pay: "It has been estimated that the typical older couple may need to save \$300,000 to pay for health care costs not covered by Medicare alone." Medicare certainly provides an important safety net for Americans, but it does not appear to provide a blank check for unlimited treatment.

Wrong Sandwich

workplace. It still stands that in 29 states you can be fired because of your sexual orientation, and in 34 states because of your gender identity. Pam Spaulding of the website

<http://www.pamshouseblend.com> gave her take on the matter in an article she wrote in

September of this year: “It’s ironic, given ENDA would have helped more people come out of the closet and to be able to be advocates in their own communities if they didn’t fear losing their jobs in an already tough economy.”

Avoid inserting the web address as the NAME of the website. Use the title of the website.

--The citation is also ambiguous because the website Pam’s House Blend is a blog with multiple blog posts, and simply putting in the web address to the site’s home page does not take the reader to the specific web page where the quote came from.

--Date of publication is incorrect also.

--Notice also there is no sentence after the quote clarifying its meaning in terms of making the essay’s overall point.

Right Sandwich

... Pam Spaulding in a February 2012 post on her blog *Pam’s House Blend* titled, “Why we need ENDA – you can still be fired in most states for being LGBT – ask Ellen,” gave her take on the matter: “It’s ironic, given ENDA would have helped more people come out of the closet and to be able to be advocates in their communities if they didn’t fear losing their jobs in an already tough economy.” Spaulding confirms the same anxiety that Lydia has about her friend’s situation here in San Antonio. Her friend at any time could be fired simply because she was gay.