

Quote Blending (Embedding) Practice

Quotes are useful in writing because they serve to validate your point. Choose your quotes carefully, however; the best quotes are the ones that if you tried to paraphrase them, they would lose some of their power.

When using quotes, it is important to incorporate, or “blend” them seamlessly into your own words within a sentence. **Do NOT put quotes alone in a sentence.** Instead, introduce them in a way that they are part of your own sentence.

Blend each of the following quotes seamlessly into a sentence that you create. You may NOT begin the quote with, “Ford said, ‘.....’”. Be more creative than that!

Example: “I will love the light for it shows me the way. Yet I will endure the darkness because it shows me the stars.” Og Mandino

This is a Stand Alone quote and points will be deducted.

Blended or Embedded: Even though times may be difficult, it is important to be positive and “love the light for it shows me the way [while] endur[ing] the darkness because it shows me the stars” (Mandino 44).

Notice that brackets [] were used to show that words were added or changed. You would do this when the quote as written does not flow well with your sentence. Use brackets if needed to change or add words and make the sentence flow!

Wrong (Stand Alone quote):

During the Winter Carnival, Finny stands up on the table and dances, even with his cast.

“It was his wildest demonstration of himself, of himself in the kind of world he loved; it was his choreography of peace” (Knowles 128).

Right (Blended or Embedded):

During the Winter Carnival, Finny stands up on the table to dance with the “wildest demonstration of himself” in order to show the others “his choreography of peace” (Knowles 128).

Wrong (Stand Alone quote): “If you think you can do a thing or think you can’t do a thing, you’re right.” Henry Ford

Right (Blended or Embedded): Students often say they “can’t do a thing”, and they’re right (Ford). If students “think [they] can do a thing”, they can, but if they “think they can’t” they will fail. (Ford).

Also notice that I did not use the entire quote. I began the quote mid-sentence of the original. This is also perfectly OK to do. As long as you maintain the integrity of the quote (convey the same meaning), you can use whatever part(s) you would like to fit your purpose.

Name(s) _____

Now, use the quotes given below and embed them into your own sentence. Don't forget the parenthetical citation!

1. "A happy person is not a person in a certain set of circumstances, but rather a person with a certain set of attitudes." Hugh Downs, award-winning journalist, page 427
2. "Kindness is the language which the deaf can hear and the blind can see." Mark Twain page 291
4. "Be the change that you want to see in the world." Mahatma Gandhi, Nobel Peace Prize winner
5. "The greatest test of courage is to bear defeat without losing heart." Robert Ingersoll, Civil War veteran and orator, page 83
6. "We are the choices we make." Meryl Streep, award-winning actress, page 673

