**English 1130.004/008 – Douglas College  
Winter 2017 – David N. Wright**

**A Few More Tips for Integrating Sources**

1. Do not allow quotes to speak for themselves. Your research paper is ultimately about communicating YOUR IDEAS. Your research simply helps prove or support those ideas. So, you should not just string other peoples ideas together giving quote after quote.
2. Always make sure you provide an analysis of the quote. Show your readers that you understand how the quote relates to your ideas by analyzing its significance.
3. Do not use quotes as padding. This is related to tips 1 and 2 above. Very long quotes will require long explanations of their significance. If quotes do not have adequate analysis, readers will feel that you don’t have a grasp on what that quote means, and they also might feel that you are using quotes as “filler” to take up space.
4. Extract those parts of the passage that need quoting, and integrate quotes smoothly into your text.
   1. Avoid wordy or awkward introductions to a quote. Here are two examples:
      1. In Simone de Beauvoir’s book *The Coming of Age*, on page 65 she states, “The decrepitude accompanying old age is in complete conflict with the manly or womanly ideal cherished by the young and fully grown.” OR
      2. In *The Coming of Age*, the author, Simone de Beavoir, says that “the decrepitude accompanying old age is in complete conflict with the manly or womanly ideal cherished by the young and fully grown"(65).
   2. Choose your introductory verb carefully: If you want to use a neutral verb, try using these: writes, says, states, observes, suggests, remarks, etc. If you want to convey and attitude or emotion try using verbs such as laments, protests, charges, replies, admits, claims, etc.
   3. Combine quotes with analysis:
      1. Original: Tania Modleski suggests that "if television is considered by some to be a vast wasteland, soap operas are thought to be the least nourishing spot in the desert" (123).
      2. Revised: In her critique of soap operas, Tania Modleski argues that some view television as "a vast wasteland" and soap operas as "the least nourishing spot in the desert" (123).
   4. Use a few key words of quotation for effect inside a summary:
      1. Example: As William Kneale suggests, some humans have a "moral deafness" which is never punctured no matter what the moral treatment (93).

**Rules for Punctuating Quotes**

1. Short Quotations
   1. If your quotations are less than four lines long (which is usually the case), place them in your text and enclose them with quotation marks.
   2. Remember to include a parenthetical citation for each quotation used.
      1. Example: Pearl, who is Hawthorne's symbol of truth, reaches a proportionately happy conclusion, becoming "the richest heiress of her day, in the New World" (243).
      2. Example: Edward Zigler laments, "One finds violence, hostility, and aggression everywhere, including TV, the movies, and in many of our everyday social relations" (40).
   3. If your quote is not introduced with an author’s name, you will need to put that name in the parenthetical citation.
      1. Example: For example, “One finds violence, hostility and aggression everywhere, including TV, the movies, and in many of our everyday social relations” (Zigler 40).
2. Long Quotations
   1. If a quotation is more than four lines long, set it off from your text by indenting.
   2. Introduce the quotation with a complete sentence and a colon.
   3. Indent 10 spaces (one tab stop), double space the lines, and do not use quotation marks.
   4. Do not indent the opening line unless the quote begins a new paragraph. Example:

Robert Hastrow sums up the process in the following passage, where he compares rays of light to a ball thrown up from the earth and returning because of the pull of gravity:

The tug of that enormous force prevents the ray of light from leaving the surface of the star; like the ball thrown upward from the earth, they are pulled back and cannot escape to space. All the light within the star is now trapped by gravity. From this moment on, the star is invisible. It is a black hole in space (65).

1. Ellipses: Use ellipses to indicate when you have omitted unnecessary words from a direct quote—how you do this will vary according to citation style, below is MLA.
   1. "Even to take drugs once or twice," Diamond writes, "I must be strong enough to get past [. . .] the misery of my first hangover" (199).

**You do not need to quote or cite information that is common knowledge. (The earth revolves around the sun. Excessive consumption of alcohol can impair your judgment).**

**Remember: avoid plagiarism at all costs! When in doubt, provide a citation!!**