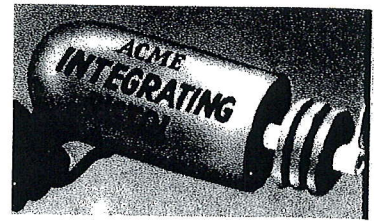


Integrating Quotations



1) Provide a context for each quotation.

Do not rely on quotations to prove your point for you. It is your responsibility to provide your reader with a context for the quotation. The context should set the basic scene for **WHEN**, possibly **WHERE** and **UNDER WHAT CIRCUMSTANCES** the quotation was spoken or written.

FOR EXAMPLE: When Franklin Roosevelt gave his inaugural speech on March 4, 1933, he addressed a nation weakened and demoralized by economic depression.

You can introduce quotations in a variety of ways:

a) **Introduce the quotation with a complete sentence and a colon.**

e.g. The Lorax is aware of his grave responsibility: "I speak for the trees."

b) **Use an introductory or explanatory phrase, but not a complete sentence, separated from the quotation with a comma.**

e.g. According to the fashion experts on What Not to Wear, "sparkle is not only for evening wear."

c) **Make the quotation a part of your own sentence without any punctuation between your own words and the quotation itself.**

e.g. Vito Corleone is disappointed when Michael "takes his place as the Godfather" because he has higher hopes for his youngest son.

d) **Use short quotations of a few words each as part of your own sentence.**

e.g. The average TV viewer is "bombarded" with image after image of "stereotyped and superficial" portrayals of women.

2) Provide a citation for each quotation.

According to MLA format guidelines, each quotation should be followed by a **CITATION IN PARENTHESES**. The citation should include the author's last name and page or line number(s) identifying the source from which the quotation has been taken. In the following example, note that the punctuation follows the citation.

FOR EXAMPLE: Romantic poetry is characterized by the "spontaneous overflow of powerful feelings" (Wordsworth 263).