

Incorporating Quotes

When you are supporting your idea with a quote, there are a few rules to follow that will make your quote fit in with the rest of your essay.

- Make sure the quote supports the reason.
- Identify the author if not widely known.
- Use proper punctuation.
- Follow the quote with a transition and explanation.
- Tie it in to the topic.

In each of the following examples there is a quote, followed by a **transition** and an explanation.

My grandfather used to always say, “The ultimate responsibility always lies within you, and the opportunities are the ones you create.” **In other words**, it is my job to make the right choices and find ways to reach my goals.

Thomas Paine once said, “Those who expect to reap the blessings of freedom must undergo the fatigue of supporting it.” **Basically**, having freedom of choice means having the responsibility of fighting for it.

Coach Johnson, my baseball coach, always encourages us before a game by reminding us, “You can’t choose your circumstances, but you can choose to overcome them.” **In translation**, no matter what obstacles you are faced with, you have a choice in how you tackle them.

My mother is always saying, “We are our choices.” **Specifically**, the person we become is a direct result of the decisions we make.

“I must respect the opinions of others even if I disagree with them,” Herbert Henry Lehman once said. **This means** we should allow others to make their own choices, even if we feel otherwise.

John F. Kennedy said, “One person can make a difference, and every person should try.” **With this in mind**, I always know I have the power to initiate positive change.

I once read a book that said, “When you are tempted to point a finger, lend a helping hand instead.” **To clarify this somewhat confusing quote**, instead of blaming someone for a problem, see if you can help solve it.



Incorporating Quotes

Now it's your turn to practice. The following quotes are divided according to character traits. For each quote, write a **transition** and **an explanation** of the quote in the blank.

Extra Tip: Stuck for a good **transition**? Refer to *Emphasis* and *Clarification* transitions on your Using Transitions worksheet.

Responsibility

1. Dorcas Hardy - "The one with the primary responsibility to the individual's future is that individual."

2. Abraham Lincoln - "You cannot escape the responsibility of tomorrow by evading it today."

3. Doug Larson - "The reason people blame things on the previous generation is that there's only one other choice."



Citizenship

4. William James - “Act as though what you do makes a difference. It does.”

5. Margaret Mead - “Never doubt that a small group of concerned citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has.”

6. Charles Kingsley - “There are two freedoms – the false, where man is free to do what he likes; the true, where he is free to do what he ought.”

Kindness

7. Mother Theresa - “Kind words can be short and easy to speak, but their echoes are truly endless.”

8. Louise Brown - “If you can’t return a favor, pass it on.”

9. Nonpareil - “If someone were to pay you 10 cents for every kind word you spoke and collect 10 cents for every unkind word, would you be rich or poor?”



Respect

10. Anonymous - "Respect starts when you practice it, not when you ask for it."

11. Bernard Haldane - "If you want to get the best out of a man, look for the best that is in him."

12. Sharon Mart - "Even if someone doesn't treat you with the respect you deserve, you can give them the respect they don't."

13. Lao-Tzu - "When you are content to simply be yourself and don't compare or compete, everybody will respect you."



Honesty

14. Anonymous - "The most important person to be honest with is yourself."

15. Vernon Howard - "Truth is not a matter of personal viewpoint."

16. Leah Arendt - "Do not do what you would undo if caught."

17. Rene Torres - "Dishonesty is like a boomerang. About the time you think all is well, it hits you in the back of the head."

Self-Control

18. Anonymous - "Anger is only one letter short of danger"



19. Leah Arendt - "Education is the ability to listen to almost anything without losing your temper or self-confidence."

20. Anonymous - "It is wiser to choose what you say than to say what you choose."

Tolerance

21. Anonymous - "Live and let live."

22. Cesar Chavez - "Preservation of one's own culture does not require contempt or disrespect for other cultures."

23. Eleanor Roosevelt - "One can't make you feel inferior without your permission."

Cooperation

24. Martin Luther King, Jr. - "We must learn to live together as brothers or perish together as fools."

25. Adlai Stevenson - "On this shrunken globe, men can no longer live like strangers."

Add Your Own Quotes

26.

27.



28.

29.

30.
