Quote Introductions & Conclusions
Grab the Reader’s Attention & End Your Essay with Style!

Not sure of how to start your essay? Use a generalized quote to grab the reader’s attention and open your essay with a bang! Using a quote allows you to showcase your attention to detail, while still being creative. Remember, when using a quote, give credit to the person who said it, and use the proper punctuation.

Some quotes have become a part of culture and their original author has been lost over time. When this is the case, and you do not know the exact person who said your quote, use someone you are familiar with.

**EXAMPLE:** My mother is always telling me, “Live and let live.”
Ms. Smith, my language arts teacher, once said, “Live and let live.”
“Live and let live,” my tennis coach constantly says.

The following is an example of a Quote Introduction:
- It begins with a Quote which gives credit to the original author and uses proper punctuation
- The underlined writing indicates the “tie-in” to the prompt given about practicing good citizenship.
- The bold writing indicates the thesis statement, which should always be the last sentence in your introductory paragraph when beginning with a quote.

William James once said, “Act as though what you do makes a difference. It does.” It seems as if many people do not understand how their actions affect others. This is also true about citizenship. The actions of a good citizenship are like a rock being thrown into a pond. The ripples spread out, causing other people to become good citizens. Being a good citizen means demonstrating obedience for laws, showing respect, and exhibiting cooperation within one’s community.

Just as beginning your essay with a quote is a great way to grab the reader’s attention, ending your essay in a manner that refers back to the quote will make the piece consistent and provide a satisfactory ending for the reader.

The concluding paragraph of an essay should be the opposite of the introduction.
- Begins with the restatement of thesis in two sentences
- Refers back to the quote
- Concludes the essay
Below is the conclusion corresponding to the Quote Introduction above.

In summation, it is imperative to practice good citizenship because it demonstrates obedience for laws. Additionally, it displays respect and shows cooperation within one’s community. When one person practices good citizenship, it can be contagious and others will also become better citizens. As these ripples spread, the country becomes better and stronger. William James was definitely right, because what you do does make a difference!

Write On!
Review the following two examples of Quote Introductions and Conclusions

**Introduction**

Adlai Stevenson once said, “On this shrunken globe, men can no longer live like strangers.” So many people move from different towns, states, and countries, that our country has become a melting pot of different cultures. Due to all of the various beliefs and values, it is important that we all work together as good citizens. Being a good citizen means demonstrating obedience for laws, showing respect, and exhibiting cooperation within one’s community.

**Conclusion**

To sum it all up, it is imperative to practice good citizenship because it demonstrates obedience for laws. In addition, it displays respect and shows cooperation within one’s community. Our world continues to get smaller as people move from place to place. Since so many communities have a variety of cultures, good citizenship is becoming more important to help everyone get along. Adlai Stevenson was right on the money. We can’t be strangers anymore. We have to help each other and be good citizens together.

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**Introduction**

After a particularly bad soccer practice, our coach called us into the locker room for a talk. “There is no ‘I’ in team,” he yelled. As I was walking home, I thought about what he said. Everyone has to work together to make a team work. The same is true about our country. It’s important to be a good citizen for many reasons. Being a good citizen means demonstrating obedience for laws, showing respect, and exhibiting cooperation within one’s community.

**Conclusion**

To sum it all up, it is imperative to practice good citizenship because it demonstrates obedience for laws. In addition, it displays respect and shows cooperation within one’s community. When I got home, I told my parents about the practice and what my coach said. They agreed with him and told me this is true in all areas of life. My coach hit the nail on the head with that quote. Everyone must work together, whether it’s on a team so they can win or in a community so everyone will be better citizens.
Review the following two examples of Quote Introductions and Conclusions

Introduction
“The only thing necessary for the triumph of evil is for good people to do nothing,” Edmund Burke stated. This is very true in life. If good people set back and do not do what is right, then bad will triumph. It can be something as simple as not voting in an election or trying to get out of jury duty. We all need to be good citizens, if we want our country to be strong. Being a good citizen means demonstrating obedience for laws, showing respect, and exhibiting cooperation within one’s community.

Conclusion
In a nutshell, it is imperative to practice good citizenship because it demonstrates obedience for laws. Also, it displays respect and shows cooperation within one’s community. It is very tempting to not participate in elections and jury duty, but everyone should because it is a price we pay to live in a free country. Our country provides us with so many opportunities, that we need to do our part. Edmund Burke made a great observation because sometimes not doing good is just as harmful as doing bad.

Introduction
My mother always tells me, “If you can’t return a favor, pass it on.” Basically, what she was saying was that it is important to always give back. Often, we take what we have for granted and forget that others do not have as much. Passing on a favor can be as simple as helping someone across the street, or more involved, such as organizing a charity fund raiser. Whatever someone chooses to do, it will make them a better person and a better citizen. Being a good citizen means demonstrating obedience for laws, showing respect, and exhibiting cooperation within one’s community.

Conclusion
All in all, it is imperative to practice good citizenship because it demonstrates obedience for laws. Also, it displays respect and shows cooperation within one’s community. No matter what a person does to give back, it will make then a better person and a better citizen. If everyone contributes just a little bit, then the world will be a better place. Once again, my mom was right. We have to give back to the community around us.
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Now it’s your turn. Write a Quote Introduction and Conclusion for a thesis statement you already wrote in on your Thesis Statement Practice worksheets. Check each step as you complete it.

Make sure your Quote Introduction:
- Begins with a great quote
- Ties into the prompt
- Ends with the thesis statement
- Uses proper punctuation
- Gives credit to the originator of the quote

Write a Conclusion for the Quote Introduction above.
Make sure your Conclusion:
- Begins with a restatement of the thesis in two sentences
- Ties back to the prompt
- Refers to the quote
- Uses proper punctuation
Quotations
Can you use any of these quotations in your writing?

“The mere sense of living is joy enough” – Emily Dickinson
“Life can only be understood backwards, but it must be lived forwards.” – Soren Kirkegaard
“The future depends on what we do in the present.” – Mahatma Ghandhi
“As soon as you trust yourself, you will know how to live.” – Goethe
“Above all, try something.” – Franklin D. Roosevelt
“If you want to be listened to, you should put time in listening.” – Marge Piercy
“If you can dream it, you can do it.” – Walt Disney
“Always be a ‘work in progress’.” – Tim Dubois
“Live so that your friends can defend you, but never have to.” – Arnold Glasow
“The most wasted of all days is one without laughter.” – ee cummings
“The important thing is not to stop questioning.” – Albert Einstein
“Adventure is worthwhile in itself.” – Amelia Earhart
“Do not go where the path may lead, go instead where there is no path and leave a trail.” – Ralph Waldo Emerson
“In three words I can sum up everything I’ve learned about life: It goes on.” – Robert Frost
“The greater the obstacle, the more glory in overcoming it.” – Moliere
“Fantasy is a necessary ingredient in living.” – Dr. Seuss
“Think for yourself and let others enjoy the privilege of doing so too.” – Voltaire
“It is never too late to be what you might have been.” – George Eliot
“Hear the meaning within the word.” – William Shakespeare
“Never let the fear of striking out get in your way.” – George Herman ‘Babe’ Ruth

Add Some of Your Favorite Quotes