ENGLISH, LITERACY, AND COMMUNICATION

Integrating quotations

Difficulty level: Advanced

English, Literacy, and Communication

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Overview of the concept

This is how you weave a quote into your own sentence in an essay, so it supports your point instead of sitting there unexplained. A quote dropped in on its own reads like an interruption, but a quote worked into your sentence reads like evidence. Getting this right makes your essays sound polished and convincing, and it is what markers look for when they judge whether you really understood the source you quoted.



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Worked examples

EXAMPLE 1

Q Integrate this quote into a sentence: 'The sea was calm.' (about a peaceful morning)

SOLUTION

Give context in your own words: the morning was peaceful.

Place the quote inside your sentence, with quotation marks.

So: The morning was peaceful, as the writer notes: 'The sea was calm.'

EXAMPLE 2

Q Integrate this quote into a sentence: 'Practice makes perfect.' (about improving at piano)

SOLUTION

Give context in your own words: Sara improved at piano.

Place the quote inside your sentence, with quotation marks.

So: Sara improved at piano, proving that 'practice makes perfect.'

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Practice questions

1

Integrate: 'The garden was beautiful.' (about spring)

A Spring had arrived. 'The garden was beautiful.'

B Spring had arrived, and 'the garden was beautiful.'

C Spring had arrived, and 'The Garden was beautiful.'

D 'The garden was beautiful.' Spring had arrived.

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2

Integrate: 'The sea was calm.' (about a peaceful morning) Which sentence introduces the quote with a colon?

A. The writer describes the morning: 'The sea was calm.'

B. The writer describes the morning, 'The Sea was calm.'

C. The writer describes the morning. 'The sea was calm.'

D. The writer describes the morning 'The sea was calm.'

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3

Read this sentence: 'The story was fascinating.' She found that. What is wrong with it?

A The quote is not connected to the sentence

B The quote is too short

C The capital letter is wrong

D Nothing is wrong

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4

Integrate: 'She smiled warmly.' (about meeting a friend) Put the quote first. Which sentence is correct?

A 'She smiled warmly,' she said, meeting her friend.

B 'she smiled warmly,' she said, meeting her friend.

C 'She smiled warmly.' she said, meeting her friend.

D She smiled warmly, meeting her friend.

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5

Integrate: 'The storm was fierce.' (about the night) Where does the comma go when a quote ends in the middle of a sentence?

A 'The storm was fierce,' the writer says.

B 'The storm was fierce', the writer says.

C 'The storm was fierce.' the writer says.

D 'The storm was fierce' the writer says.

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6 After the word 'that', how should a quote begin?

- **A** With a lowercase letter and no comma
- **B** With a capital letter
- **C** With a comma and then a capital letter
- **D** With a comma and then a lowercase letter

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7 Integrate: 'The cake was delicious.' (about the party) Which sentence puts the full stop in the right place?

- **A** She said, 'The cake was delicious.'
- **B** She said, 'The cake was delicious'.
- **C** She said 'The cake was delicious.'
- **D** She said, The cake was delicious.

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8

Point: the hike was tough. Quote: 'The mountain was tall.' Which sentence uses the quote as evidence for the point?

A. The hike was tough, as the writer shows: 'the mountain was tall.'

B. The mountain was tall. The hike was tough.

C. 'The mountain was tall,' the hike was tough.

D. The hike was tough, the mountain was tall.

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9

Quote: 'The baby slept soundly.' Which sentence keeps the quote's words exactly as written?

A That night, 'the baby slept soundly' without waking.

B That night, 'the baby slept well' without waking.

C That night. 'The baby slept soundly.' Without waking.

D That night, the baby slept soundly without waking.

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10

Quote: 'The team played well.' Which sentence quotes just the key words in the middle of a sentence?

A. In the game, the team 'played well' and won.

B. In the game, 'The team played well' and won.

C. In the game. 'The team played well.' They won.

D. In the game, the team played well and won.

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ANSWER KEY

1. Spring had arrived, and 'the garden was beautiful.'
2. The writer describes the morning: 'The sea was calm.'
3. The quote is not connected to the sentence
4. 'She smiled warmly,' she said, meeting her friend.
5. 'The storm was fierce,' the writer says.
6. With a lowercase letter and no comma
7. She said, 'The cake was delicious.'
8. The hike was tough, as the writer shows: 'the mountain was tall.'
9. That night, 'the baby slept soundly' without waking.
10. In the game, the team 'played well' and won.

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