**In-Text Quotations & MLA Citations**

When using quotations (textual *exact* words) as evidence in a written response or essay, gracefully incorporate them into your writing by **imbedding** quoted words **into your own original sentences**. (Includes MLA Modern Language Association (of America) in-text citations)

**NOTE:**

PLEASE DO NOT introduce a quotation by writing: “The following quote shows…”

PLEASE DO NOT just drop a quotation in your essay as a standalone sentence.

**Examples** (from *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* by Mark Twain) **of imbedded quotes:**

* Use a statement and a colon to introduce a quote:

At the end of the chapter, Twain’s Huck takes a significant step toward recognizing Jims’ humanity: “I didn’t do him no more mean tricks, and I wouldn’t done that one if I’d ‘a’ know’d it would make him feel that way” (111).

* Use a speaking verb and a comma to introduce a quote:

Huck is not trying to be funny when he says, “Sometimes I wish we could hear of a country that’s out of kings” (Twain 199).

* Use a short quoted fragment:

Ironically, the most moral act Huck commits causes him to believe that he’ll “go to perdition” (Twain 273) for doing it.

Primary Source: <http://drake.marin.k12.ca.us/academics/englishhandbook.pdf>

**More in-text citation examples:**

The author's name may appear either in the sentence itself or in parentheses following the quotation (or paraphrase), but the page number(s) should always appear in the parentheses, not in the text of your sentence. For example:

Wordsworth stated that Romantic poetry was marked by a "spontaneous overflow of powerful feelings" (263).

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

Wordsworth extensively explored the role of emotion in the creative process (263).