

Sample Quoting Techniques: Shakespeare's Plays

Tips for Quoting Effectively:

- When quoting, attempt to incorporate the quotation within a sentence.
 - Make sure that the sentence flows and it is not a run-on.
- Remember: sometimes it is more effective to use only a few words from a quotation (see example 5).
- Ellipse points signify that you have left a few words or a line out of the quotation (see example 2 and 4).
- When Inserting information in a quote, use square brackets (see example 9).
- When quoting more than one line, use a slash to show the line break (see example 10).
- Make sure to record the quote reference correctly: use parentheses and record the Act, Scene, and Line number.

SAMPLES:

1. Sampson plans to instigate a fight with Montague's men, insisting "I will bite my thumb at them which is a disgrace to them, if they bear it" (I.i.35-36).
2. It is evident Benvolio is a peaceful person when he urges, "Part fools! Put up your swords. You know not what you do....I do but keep the peace" (I.i.55, 58).
3. Tybalt's fiery temper is obvious as he yells, "I hate the word [peace] as I hate hell, all Montagues, and thee. Have at thee coward" (I.i.62).
4. The opening skirmish ends when the Prince threatens his "rebellious subjects....if ever you disturb the quiet of our streets again your lives shall pay the forfeit of the peace" (I.i.71, 86-87).
5. Iago devises a plan to deceive Othello by acting "in double knavery" (I.iii.383).
6. When Iago ridicules Emilia, Desdemona defends her responding, "O fie upon thee, slanderer" (II.i.113).
7. The Duke sends for Othello because he needs him to lead an attack "against the general enemy Ottoman" (I.ii.49).
8. At the start of the play, Iago is resentful of Cassio who has been appointed as Othello's lieutenant. Iago asserts that he is more worthy of the position as Cassio is merely an arithmetician who has "never set a squadron in the field nor the division of a battle knows" (I.i.22-23).
9. Juliet exclaims, "the clock struck nine / when I did send the nurse" (II.v.1).
10. Lady Macbeth's signal to Macbeth is the ringing of a bell: "I go, and it is done. The bell invites me" (II.i.70).