

## Blending Quotes Properly

- All quoted material must be integrated (blended) into the text of your paper.
- You may use a word, a phrase, a sentence (or more).
- Quoted material must be introduced, quoted, cited, and then explained (w/commentary) EVERY TIME!
- All quoted material, be it word, phrase, or sentence, should fit into a grammatically correct sentence.

**1. If the quoted material is a complete sentence, it should be added to your sentence like this:**

- a. As a rule, T.H. White portrays Arthur as dumb, though not without any intelligence: “Wart sat down hard, thinking quickly” (173).
- b. To end the horrible plague that is devouring Thebes, Oedipus vows to discover the murderer of King Laius: “No, I’ll start again – I’ll bring it all to light myself” (150)!
- c. Jim clarifies exactly what Huck did that was wrong: “trash is what people is dat puts dirt on de head or dey frens en makes ‘em ashamed” (109).

**2. Blend a portion of the quote into your own sentence:**

- a. T.H. White loves to turn our assumptions on end when describing jousting; his description of the combatants as “beleaguered warriors, searching for one another, secretly hoping the other would disappear” (236), gives one the impression of tired old men, rather than valiant soldiers.
- b. Oedipus is the hunter who follows “the trail of the ancient guilt” (124) and the sailor who, in the chorus’ words, “set our beloved land – storm tossed, shattered – straight on course” (765-66).

**3. Take a SMALL portion of the quote and blend into your own sentence:**

- a. Jim calls Huck “trash” and then defines “trash” as those who play cruel jokes on their friends and try to “make ‘em ashamed” (109).
- b. Ironically the “light” which Oedipus plans to reveal will plunge him into an abyss of dark self-awareness (767).

**4. One method of blending quotes is to use the mnemonic, “Ah, I Quit Ditching Class,” where each first letter of the phrase stands for the following:**

- a. A – Assertion (opinion)
- b. I – Introduction to the quote
- c. Q – Quote that supports your opinion
- d. D – Document your quote with a page or paragraph number
- e. C – Comment on how your quote supports your opinion

**NOTES:**

- The above are 5 components, NOT 5 sentences. DO write in complete sentences.
- Your statement/s need not be in this order, but all these components should be included in your statement/s.

**5. Avoid at all costs introducing your quoted material in these ways:**

- a. This quote means that...
- b. Jane says, ...
- c. In the quote, “dededadadum,” Wright means...