

Quotes are an excellent way to provide direct support from a novel or book for an argument you are making in an essay. However, they **must** be used correctly for them to be effective.

Three Steps to Using Quotes...

1. Begin by introducing the quote in an essay's body paragraph. This connects the quote to what you are writing about:

When the hunters begin their evil chant, the author is demonstrating how the boys have rid themselves of civility and become a part of evil.

2. Include the actual quote. Note the format of it:

"Kill the beast, cut her throat, bash her head!" (Golding 68).

- Use of quotation marks
- Author's name and page number in brackets after the quote
- Sentence punctuation after the brackets
- Author's name not needed after writing it once

3. Provide a connection between the quote and your body paragraph's main idea and/or your thesis:

This quote clearly shows readers when the boys become evil, based on their fascination with blood, violence and death. This ultimately shows that the theme of evil is overtaking good within the island.

And that's it – a quote is now effectively added to your body paragraph!

When the hunters begin their evil chant, the author is demonstrating how the boys rid themselves of civility and become part of evil. "Kill the beast, cut her throat, bash her head!" (Golding 68). This quote clearly shows readers when the boys become evil, based on their fascination with blood, violence and death. This ultimately shows that the theme of evil is overtaking good within the island.

Combined with more of your own words, body paragraphs become informative, interesting and well-supported very quickly.

DO NOT...

- Have more quotes than your own words
- Include quotes that support an idea in your introductory or conclusion paragraphs
- Use quotes without explaining them
- Add quotes just to say they are there... they need to have a meaningful connection

WORKS CITED

After including quotes from a novel in your essay you **must** include a “WORKS CITED” page at the very end – on its own page. This is similar to a bibliography but only includes novels that have been quoted directly in your essay.

WORKS CITED

Author’s Name (Last, First). *Title in Italics*. Place of Publishing: Publisher, Year.

Golding, William. *Lord of the Flies*. Toronto: Bantam Press, 1991.

(NOTE: The information above is made-up. You’ll have to find it yourself!)