

## Quotation Selection and Integration Notes

### Part I: Note-Taking

**Directions:** Follow along with the teacher and take notes in the table below regarding how to select and integrate quotes.

Quote integration refers to the process of **seamlessly and effectively incorporating quotations** from a text into your own writing to **support your claim**.

### Quote Selection

When selecting quotes for a paper, consider the following:

- **Consider the topic** and select the quotes that **best support** your claim.
- Identify quotes that are **complex** and require **reflection and analysis** to add depth and nuance to your argument.
- Analyze what the author is trying to **convey or communicate** to readers through the evidence.
- Understand the **historical situation or context** in which this evidence was created or presented, and consider how this information could add depth to your analysis or argument.

Claim Topic: Importance of loving one's identity.

**Strong Quote:** "After everyone had gone, my mother said to me, 'You want to be the same as American girls on the outside.' She handed me an early gift. It was a miniskirt in beige tweed. 'But inside you must always be Chinese. You must be proud you are different. Your only shame is to have shame.'"

**Weak Quote:** "And then they arrived – the minister's family and all my relatives in a clamor of doorbells and crumpled Christmas packages. Robert grunted hello, and I pretended he was not worthy of existence."

### Quote integration Part I: Context

Context in an essay is **one brief sentence before the quote** that clarifies its relevance to your **claim and analysis**.

Try to answer some of these questions when providing a quote:

- What is happening **around the passage** or in that moment of the text?
- Who is **involved**?
- What is the **setting**?
- Which **character said/though it**?

Important:

- While integrating a few lines from a **poem**, it may be difficult to provide a full sentence of context. In that case, it is acceptable for the quote integration to just be **one sentence with the context and quote together**.

Seeing Robert, the minister's son, react with visible discomfort and disrespect toward her family's Chinese traditions, food, and manners during their Christmas Eve dinner, Tan felt a profound sense of embarrassment and shame.

### Quote Integration Part II: Embedded Quote

There are three ways to embed a quote: two are correct while one is incorrect.

#### Incorrect: Non-Blended

Non-blended quotes are quotations that **stand alone without being integrated** into the writer's own sentences. It can also be a quote that incorrectly uses a lead in. They often **disrupt the flow** of the writing.

Her mother gives her advice. "You want to be the same as American girls on the outside." She handed me an early gift. It was a miniskirt in beige tweed. "But inside you must always be Chinese. You must be proud you are different. Your only shame is to have shame."

### Correct: Blended

Blended quotes use a **lead-in phrase** that tells the reader who says the quotation and/or action and usually a **whole quote** or a **majority** of it is used.

- There's a **clear separation** between what the writer is saying and the quote itself.
- Your quotes should **not be longer than 3 lines**.
- You can remove **unnecessary words, phrases, and sentences** and replace them with an **ellipsis: " . . . "**

Once everyone had left, Tan's mother hands her a mini skirt and says, "You want to be the same as American girls on the outside. . . . But inside you must always be Chinese. You must be proud you are different. Your only shame is to have shame."

### Correct: Well-Blended

Blended quotes refer to quotations that are **seamlessly integrated** into the **writer's own sentences**, maintaining the flow and coherence of the overall piece.

- Only the **most IMPORTANT part of the quote** is used
- If the quote marks are removed, the quote will sound as if **the writer wrote it**.
- Any **word changes** of the quote must be placed in **brackets**.

After everyone had left, Tan's mother hands her a miniskirt and acknowledges her desire "to be the same as American girls on the outside," yet she emphasizes that "inside [Tan] must always be Chinese" and "be proud [she is] different."

### In-Text Citation

- If you **do not use the author's last name** in the quote introduction, you **include the author's last name and the page number in the parenthesis**.
- If you **include the author's last name** in the quote introduction, you only need to include the **page number in the parenthesis**.
- When analyzing only the quotes of one novel:  
If you have already introduced **the author's full name in your introduction or claim**, you **only include the page number in the parentheses**.
- When citing a **poem**, you put **slashes between the lines** and the **line numbers in the parentheses**

#### Important:

- Punctuation at the end of a quote with in-text citation should look like this: "Quote" (Citation).
  - **Erase** the period at the end of the quote before the quotation mark. Only keep **exclamation points and question marks**.
- If there is **no in-text citation**, then the punctuation should look like this: "Quote."

After everyone had left, her mother observes her desire "to be the same as American girls on the outside," yet she emphasizes that "inside [she] must always be Chinese" and "be proud [she is] different" (Tan 3).

After everyone had left, Tan's mother observes her desire "to be the same as American girls on the outside," yet she emphasizes that "inside [she] must always be Chinese" and "be proud [she is] different" (3).

Poem: According to Emily Dickinson,  
"‘Hope’ is the thing with feathers /  
That perches in the soul / And sings the tune  
without the words / And never stops / at all"  
(Lines 1-5).

After everyone had left, Tan's mother observes her desire "to be the same as American girls on the outside," yet she emphasizes that "inside [Tan] must always be Chinese" and "be proud [she is] different."

### Sample Sentence Frames for Blended Quotes

- For example, the character/speaker/ narrator says, "                    " (Citation).
- For instance, in the text it states, "                    " (Citation).
- To illustrate this idea/theme, the author describes "                    " (Citation).

- For example/For instance/As an illustration, the following lines read, “\_\_\_\_\_” (Citation).

## Part II: Reviewing Examples of Quote Integration

**Directions:** Read the claim and decide which of the examples of integrated quotes are non-blended, blended, or well-blended. Then decide which integrations are strong or weak.

Claim		
In Amy Tan's "Fish Cheeks," time plays a crucial role in helping her accept her cultural identity as she grows past her initial embarrassment and gains a deeper appreciation for her Chinese culture, revealing how maturity and distance enable a more profound understanding and acceptance of one's self.		
Integrated Quote #1	Integrated Quote #2	Integrated Quote #3
Years after an awkward Christmas Eve dinner in which her family invited white guests to a traditional Chinese feast, Tan reflects on her mother's efforts to teach her about having pride in her family and identity. She notes that she didn't "agree with her [mother's advice] then" because of how much she "suffered during the evening's dinner." However, she "fully appreciated" her mother's lesson after realizing that her mother "had chosen all [her] favorite foods" for dinner that night (3).	In her essay, Amy Tan writes about her thoughts on that night as an adult. "And even though I didn't agree with her then, I knew that she understood how much I had suffered during the evening's dinner. It wasn't until many years later – long after I had gotten over my crush on Robert – that I was able to fully appreciate her lesson and the true purpose behind our particular menu." (Tan).	The narrator recounts how, despite initially feeling embarrassed by her family's traditional dinner, she eventually came to appreciate her mother's intentions. She says, "It wasn't until many years later – long after I had gotten over my crush on Robert – that I was able to fully appreciate her lesson and the true purpose behind our particular menu. For Christmas Eve that year, she had chosen all my favorite foods" (3).
What do you notice about this \quote integration? Is it strong or weak? Explain. (2-3 Sentences)	What do you notice about this \quote integration? Is it strong or weak? Explain. (2-3 Sentences)	What do you notice about this \quote integration? Is it strong or weak? Explain. (2-3 Sentences)