

HOW TO USE AND CITE QUOTATIONS:

Rule 1. Be sure your quotation proves or demonstrates your point.

Rule 2: Introduce the quotation

Examples:

Aunt Ester says, "...

When Citizen realizes that it is Garrett Brown at the gate to the City of Bones, he exclaims, "...

After Eli tells Citizen he can't come in, Wilson's stage directions read, "...

What not to do:

DON'T just enter the quote without explanation:

Citizen is a great man. "What you talkin' bout, pure? Citizen ain't sell no dog sh-t"

Rule 3: Explain the quotation

Examples:

Aunt Ester says, "God answers to students who work hard and come for extra help" (*Gem of the Ocean* IIvi, p.111). Aunt Ester feels that success is the result of strong effort.

After burning down the mill, Citizen travels south to find Solly's sister. When he finds her, he says, "This here Solly Two Kings coat. I wear it now. He done died for freedom's sake" (*Gem of the Ocean* IIIiii, p.142). Citizen has fully taken on Solly's identity and even now speaks with Solly's rhythm.

The highest level of explanation involves powerful insight and deep interpretations of the quote. You may wish to talk about the author's language choices, use of figurative language (symbols and metaphors), etc etc—this is the place to use any literary analysis skills you have.

What not to do:

DON'T just repeat the quote exactly.

Aunt Ester says, "God answers to students who work hard and come for extra help" (*Gem of the Ocean* IIvi, p.111). Aunt Ester is saying that God answers to students who work hard and come for extra help.

DON'T just move on to the next idea without explaining.

Aunt Ester says, "God answers to students who work hard and come for extra help" (*Gem of the Ocean* IIvi, p.111). Solly is a strong man.

Rule 4: Cite the quotation properly

Examples:

Normal for plays:

Solly says, "I done killed no men but I sure did hurt a few" (*Gem of the Ocean* Iii, p. 46).

Numbering:

Acts:

1: I

2: II

Scenes:

1: i

2: ii

3: iii

4: iv

5: v
6: vi
7: vii

Normal for books:

Bill said, "I hate Tom" (*Bill and Tom*, p. 44).

If you need to skip a piece of text and wish to quote from before and after it:

Let's say you are quoting this passage:

I done killed no men but I sure did hurt a few. God looks well on those done never killed a man. I ain't never killed a man. God works wonders for men like me.

If you want to skip the middle lines do it like this:

Solly says, "I done killed no men but I sure did hurt a few...God works wonders for men like me" (*Gem of the Ocean* IIv, p. 89).

If your quote is longer than three typed lines:

Solly says:

I done killed no men but I sure did hurt a few. God looks well on those done never killed a man. I ain't never killed a man. God works wonders for men like me. They say men like me get big rewards down in the City of Bones. I don't know about no City of Bones but I do know a Miss Parker over on Willis Avenue.
(*Gem of the Ocean* IIv, p. 89)

Solly is a man who only cares about women.

Note: Indent .3 inches. Single space the quote itself. Leave the period at the end of the quote as it appears in the text.