Introducing and Explaining Quotes from the OWL at Purdue

Templates for Introducing Quotations

X states, “__________.”

As the world-famous scholar X explains it, “________.”

As claimed by X, “______.”

In her article _______, X suggests that “________.”

In X’s perspective, “__________.”

X concurs when she notes, “______.”

You may have noticed that when the word “that” is used, the comma frequently becomes unnecessary. This is because the word “that” integrates the quotation with the main clause of your sentence (instead of creating an independent and dependent clause).

Now that you’ve successfully used the quotation in your sentence, it’s time to explain what that quotations means—either in a general sense or in the context of your argument. Here are some templates for explaining quotations:

Templates for Explaining Quotations

In other words, X asserts __________.

In arguing this claim, X argues that __________.

X is insisting that ________.

What X really means is that ____________.

The basis of X’s argument is that __________.