

HOW TO INTRODUCE TEXTUAL EVIDENCE IN YOUR ESSAY



1. One way to introduce textual evidence is to tell the reader you are doing so. Done correctly, this will get you a 3.

For example:

According to the author, “Reading and writing are two skills every person will need in the workplace” (Smith 42).

Additional examples of this style are listed:

- As noted on page __,
- For example,
- When the author states, “...”
- An example of this occurs when (the main character) says, “...”
- As stated in the text,
- The author illustrates this point when he/she states,
- Towards the end of the story _____ says, “...”
- For instance,
- As _____ points out,
- In the words of ...

Here is a list of common verbs used to introduce textual evidence:

- | | | |
|-------------|-------------|----------------|
| • argues | • maintains | • claims |
| • writes | • suggests | • demonstrates |
| • concludes | • insists | • notes |
| • reveals | • explains | • implies |
| • observes | • counters | |
| • comments | • states | |

2. A more sophisticated way to introduce textual evidence is to incorporate it right into the sentence with the use of quotation marks, but your quote from the text must make sense in the context of the sentence. If done correctly, this will get you a 4.

For example:

April is so wildly confused that she actually “[hates] Caroline because it [is] all her fault” (page 118).