

When using quotations to support your argument, **you should always work these quotations into your own writing** so that the reader **can only distinguish between your writing and the quotations due to the quotation marks**. Quotation integration is a crucial element in effective argumentative writing, as it allows you to prove your points with quotations while maintaining the flow and coherence of your paragraphs.

You should integrate your quotations in different ways throughout your essay to create interest.

NOTE: While you **INTEGRATE** your quotations, you also want to **“SANDWICH” your quotations** with **CONTEXT** and **ANALYSIS**:

TOP SLICE OF BREAD =	CONTEXT (What’s happening here? When?)
MEAT =	THE QUOTATION itself, the proof...
BOTTOM SLICE OF BREAD =	ANALYSIS (What does this quotation reveal?)

FOR EXAMPLE...

Let’s say I’m going to use the following interchange between George and Lennie to prove that Candy’s dog is responsible for Lennie’s death:

Candy said, “George,”

“Huh?”

“I ought to of shot that dog myself, George. I shouldn’t ought to of let no stranger shoot my dog. (61)

Here are some different ways to INTEGRATE this quotation into your own writing...

Example 1 (using part of quote): Candy actually gives George the idea of shooting Lennie and sparing Lennie any pain when he confides to George that he “ought to of shot that dog myself” (61). George will follow Candy’s advice at the end of the novel, when he shoots Lennie himself so Curley will not.

Example 2 (using the whole quote): Candy’s regret that he allowed Carson to shoot his dog is not lost on George. In fact, Candy points out that when something difficult has to be done, a person should do the difficult deed himself:

Candy said, “George.”

“Huh?”

“I ought to of shot that dog myself, George. I shouldn’t ought to of let no stranger shoot my dog.” (61)

When Lennie gets in trouble and all the men agree that he will need to be tortured and then killed, George knows it is his responsibility to kill Lennie himself, so he steals Carlson’s gun.

Example 3 (using a paraphrase): George is aware of Candy’s regret’s that he did not shoot his own dog (61) and he actually steals the same gun used to execute the dog to kill Lennie. Steinbeck’s linking of these two acts through the symbol of the gun suggests that George may have gotten the idea of the “humane killing” from Candy’s dog.