

Integrating Quotations into your paper- Of Mice and Men  
Sue- English 9

When using quotations to support your topic sentences (reasons) you should always work them into your own writing so that a reader can only distinguish between your writing and the quotation because of the quotation marks.

You should vary the way you use quotations for interest.

Let me give you an example:

I am going to use the following interchange between George and Candy to show that Candy is the most 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).

**Example #1:** Candy actually gives George the idea of shooting Lennie and sparing Lennie any pain when he tells George that he "ought to of shot that dog myself" (61). That is exactly what George does at the end; he shoots Lennie so Curley will not.

**Note: You always want to create a quotation sandwich: top bread (introduce the quotation), meat (the quotation itself), bottom bread (comment on the quotation- what does it reveal?)**

**Example #2:** Candy's regret that he let Carlson shoot his dog is not lost on George. In fact, Candy actually points out to George 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 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 punished in some horrible way, George knows that it is up to him to kill Lennie and steals Carlson's gun. **(Do you see the sandwich?)**

**Example #3:** George is aware of Candy's regret that he did not shoot his own dog (61) and actually steals the same gun Carlson used to shoot Candy's dog in order to shoot Lennie. Steinbeck's linking of these two acts through the symbol of the gun demonstrates that George got his idea from Candy. **(Even here, the sandwich exists!)**

