EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT INTEGRATING QUOTATIONS INTO YOUR LITERARY ANALYSIS

PART 5: OTHER ISSUES

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PART 5: Other Quotation-Related Issues

Quotations Inside Quotations & End Punctuation with Quotation Marks
Quotations Inside Quotations

Sometimes, there are quotations inside dialogue or other quotations. In this case, it is necessary to differentiate the outside quotation from the inside quotation by differentiating the punctuation or formatting used.

- **In short quotations**, which are set off with double quotation marks around them, use single quotation marks to mark the beginning and end of the quotation inside the quotation.

- **In long quotations**, which are set off by blocking not quotation marks, use double quotation marks to mark the beginning and end of the quotation inside the quotation.
Example of a Quotation Inside a Short Quotation:

At the end of Shirley Jackson’s story “The Lottery,” Mrs. Delacroix and Mrs. Dunbar urge each other on, Mrs. Delacroix “turn[ing] to Mrs. Dunbar . . . and [saying,] ‘Hurry up’” (969) and Mrs. Dunbar responding, “gasping for breath, ‘I can’t run at all. You’ll have to go ahead and I’ll catch up with you’” (969).
Example of a Quotation Inside a Long Quotation:

Viola, disguised as the servant Cesario, tells Olivia what she (Viola) would do if she were trying to win

Olivia’s love:

Hallow your name to the reverberate hills,

And make the babbling gossip of the air

Cry out “Olivia!” O, you should not rest

Between the elements of air and earth,

But you should pity me. (1.5.271-9; 59)

Ironically, her profession of love succeeds in winning not just Olivia’s pity but her love, unfortunately

not for Orsino, who has sent Viola to woo Olivia on his behalf, but for Viola herself in the guise of

Orsino’s manservant, Cesario.
End Punctuation with Quotation Marks

When using quotation marks for a title of a poem or short story, etc., or a quotation when parenthetical in-text citation is not necessary:

- Put commas and periods inside the closing quotation mark.
  - Even though everything at first appears normal in Shirley Jackson’s story “The Lottery,” that normalcy soon is revealed to be an illusion.

- Put semicolons and colons outside the closing quotation mark.
  - In 1948, readers of The New Yorker were shocked and outraged by Shirley Jackson’s story “The Lottery”; today the story continues to horrify readers though our overall cynicism has muted some of the shock.
End Punctuation with Quotation Marks
Continued

With or without In-Text Citation, the following rules apply:

- Put question marks and exclamation marks inside the end quotation marks if the question or exclamation is the text’s.
  - Tessie, in turn, responds light-heartedly with a joke: “Wouldn’t have me leave m’dishes in the sink, now, would you, Joe?” (965).
  - Joyce Carol Oates’ titles her story “Where Are You Going, Where Have You Been?”

- Put question marks and exclamation marks outside the end quotation marks (and after the in-text citation, if any) if the question or exclamation is yours.
  - Why does Jackson begin “The Lottery” with bland description of the “morning of June 27th [as] clear and sunny, with the fresh warmth of a full-summer day” (963)?
  - Why does Jackson mislead us by naming her story “The Lottery”?


PART 6: Beyond Quoting

Understanding Paraphrase and Summary, Avoiding Plagiarism, and Creating the Works Cited

Plagiarism:
the act of presenting another's work or ideas as your own.
Paraphrases and summaries are made up of your own words, word order, and style and are not marked by quotation marks or blocking. Otherwise, they are treated the same as quotations.

- Paraphrases are the same length as the original while summaries are condensed versions, presenting only the main ideas and/or examples, key events, etc.

Paraphrases and summaries must be accurate, conveying the same meaning as the original in order to be considered fair representation.

Paraphrases and summaries must also be completely reworded and reordered in order to be considered yours. Any words or phrases that are the same as the original should be quoted.
Because we are analyzing literature, and style is an essential element of that analysis as well as necessary to prove an argument about the text’s meaning and purpose, quoting primary sources is typically preferable to paraphrasing.

Summary may be necessary to convey and analyze major events and actions in the plot, but like quotations, plot summary should be in service to your argument, used to support it.
In order to avoid plagiarism, remember this one guideline: ALL words and ideas that are not your own must be identified and their author and/or source correctly attributed.

- When paraphrasing or summarizing primary sources, make it clear that you’re discussing elements from the text (characters, plot, images, etc.), periodically reminding us with identifying phrases, like “in the story,” or in the middle of the poem’s second stanza,” etc. If you are analyzing more than one text in your paper or essay, more specific attribution is needed to make clear which one you’re referring to.

- When paraphrasing or summarizing primary or secondary sources, mark the beginning of every paraphrase or summary with an attributive tag, letting us know both that what follows comes from a source as well as what source.

- Mark the end of every paraphrase or summary with a correct parenthetical in-text citation enabling us to find the material in the primary or secondary source and to locate the secondary source on your MLA Works Cited page.
  - Only general summaries that come from throughout a text rather than one identifiable section of it do not need in-text citation.

- It is even more important to mark the beginnings of paraphrased and summarized material with an attributive tag and to mark the end with a parenthetical in-text citation than it is with quotations as without this frame, the reader will not be able to distinguish your ideas from others’, which is plagiarism (and results in an “F” on the assignment and possibly even more serious consequences).
Remember you need an accurate, complete, and correctly formatted MLA Works Cited page listing all secondary (outside) sources from which you’ve paraphrased, summarized, and quoted material.

For this class, as long as you are using the assigned or provided versions of the primary sources (stories, poems, and plays), it is not necessary to list them on the Works Cited page. If you are using versions other than the ones we’re using in class, you will need to provide a correct MLA Works Cited.

Use the most recent MLA Handbook or an up-to-date MLA guide inside another textbook, the website OWL Purdue, or another reliable internet site to help you format your Works Cited citations and the overall Works Cited page correctly according to MLA style.

- **Note:** EasyBib and other resources that format the citation for you are only as useful as the information you provide. If you miss information or provide incorrect information, the citation will be incorrect, and it will count as your error and affect your grade.
Sample Literary Analysis:

Click on the text to open the entire document.

Esther 1

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English 121

Sample Literary Analysis Essay about Shirley Jackson’s “The Lottery”
19 Aug. 2014

Man’s Humanity to Man

Robert Burns claimed in 1784 in his poem “Man Was Made to Mourn: A Dirge” that “Man’s inhumanity to man / Makes countless thousands mourn” (Lines 55-6), ironically characterizing cruelty as an inhuman and primitive trait despite the human tendency to be cruel, which his poem so clearly acknowledged and illustrated. Shirley Jackson, author of the short story “The Lottery,” would disagree with the assumption that cruelty is inhuman. She had no such illusions or expectations of humanity’s essential benevolence. Indeed, her story “The Lottery” paints a picture of humanity as inherently, naturally cruel and condemns humanity as ultimately irredeemably savage.

Without a doubt, the ending of the story paints a clear picture of human brutality. The act of stoning is itself violent, a killing that is enacted up close in which the killer sees and is seen by the victim. In addition, the horror and brutality are heightened by the fact that the ritual requires the participation of the entire village, including children and even the family members of the victim, not just in the selection process but in the killing as well. No one, except the victim, is exempt from this violence, or blameless for it, as the story illustrates only on by having “[the children assembled] first [as a matter of course] (Jackson 963), echoed at the end when “someone gave little Davy Hutchinson a few pebbles” (969). The dismissive phrase “little Davy Hutchinson” is transformed with the addition of “a few pebbles” so that in this context it no