*C:\Users\Bronwen\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary Internet Files\Content.IE5\SAW6XRDS\MC900437797[2].wmf*C:\Users\Bronwen\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary Internet Files\Content.IE5\74R7XQYD\MC900440428[1].wmf**Using Evidence to Support a Statement**

**How to ACE your writing**

**The best way to develop strong *literary analysis* writing is to follow a formula. We suggest following the ACE format.**

**What’s an ACE?**

|  |
| --- |
| **A = ASSERTION:** what is your point?  **C =** **CITATION:** your proof or evidence that supports your assertion  This can be a quote or a paraphrase.  **E =** **EXPLANATION:** explain how your citation supports your assertion and the significance of the point |

**Quote vs. Paraphrase**

**Quote =** a line directly from the text

**Paraphrase =** an idea taken from the text, rewritten in your own words

For both quotations and paraphrases you must show the reader where the information came from – provide the **author’s last name and page/paragraph/line number.**

**Examples**

Example # 1 –*Using a quote*

**A**: Mary Maloney is a patient woman.

**C**: As she waits for her husband to come home from work “she would glance up at the clock, but without anxiety, merely to please herself” (Dahl 1).

**E**: She enjoys waiting for her husband to come home and is not concerned about the time.

Example # 2 – *Using a paraphrase*

**A**: Mary is a doting wife.

**C**: She tends to her husband’s needs by making him a drink just as he gets home from work. She is careful to make his strong and cold with ice – just as he likes it. In addition, she sits quietly while he finishes his drink knowing that he does not want to speak until the drink is finished (Dahl 2).

**E**: Mary’s actions demonstrate that she takes pleasure in serving her husband and providing for him in a loving way.

**Citing quotes and titles: following MLA format, using parenthetical referencing**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Poem** | “title” | ... for missing text  [for changed text] | / indicates separation of lines | author's last name and line 42 or l. 42  in brackets |
| **Short story & article** | “title” | ... for missing text  [for changed text] | No need | author's last name para 42 or paragraph 42  in brackets |
| **Novel** | Title  *Title* | ... for missing text  [for changed text] | No need | author's last name and page 42, p. 42 or 42  in brackets |

**Short quotes** (less than 3 lines)

* Embedded right in the text using quotation marks
* Use square brackets for words that are changed or added
  + Ex. “[She] was such a great listener.”
* Use three ellipses for missing words
  + Ex. “The . . . best movie of the year!”
* Include the author’s last name and page/paragraph or line number after the citation
  + Ex. “It was the best of times; it was the worst of times” (Dickens 1).
  + On the provincial exam you use the paragraph number or line number.

**Long quotes** (more than 3 lines)

* Separated from text in block type (indented on both sides)
* Singe space, no quotation marks
* Include author’s last name and page/paragraph or line number – on the line after the last line of the quote and set off to the right side