Introducing Quotations for Better Synthesis

This worksheet takes you step-by-step through the process of integrating a quotation from a source with your own ideas in a single paragraph. Introducing sources smoothly is an essential part of any research or argument paper which requires you to respond to other writers’ ideas in order to form your own opinion. As always, be sure you understand your instructor’s expectations for the use of sources in your paper.

1. Choose a quotation from one of your sources; write it below.

2. Write a sentence that identifies the source and its authority.

3. Write a sentence that offers a general summary of the relevant position taken in the quotation.

1, 2, 3 Combined: Write a passage that includes identification of the source, the general position it takes, and the quotation it takes.

4. Write a sentence indicating your position on the issue.

5. Write a sentence that offers one reason for your position.

Updated 2005.
6. Write a sentence that illustrates the relationship between your position and that of the source.

All Combined: Now add the information in these last three sentences to the passage you wrote above.