

## Special quoting assignment (suggested time: 75 minutes after you read these three pages)

**TO SAVE:** Starting an essay with an interesting quote that is relevant to your topic is an interesting “attention grabber” and it shows that you are intelligent, making intellectual connections between well-known quotes and your essay topic.

Such quotes are not documented like internal quotes need to be. In a few days we will start practicing those kinds that you need for research papers.

By “well-known” quotes, we are talking about quotes you know, that you read or learned or heard and found memorable. The implication is you did not have to Google it; you knew it.

Here is an example. There was a real doctor, named Kevorkian, who offered to euthanize people who had incurable illnesses. He was later arrested.

### The Man Who Offered to Kill

*“To be or not to be, that is the question.”--William Shakespeare, Hamlet*

Now you write the introduction, here represented by nonsense typing sjsdhjfejekfpe jdfowjwsjfwj

adjjdsjdsj jdj. djkdjsdso woosjdsod sosksksk skskpspspsusgsdflgflos sdfododo ojh eopoefkfpdk

sjsdhjfejekfpe jdfowjwsjfwj adjjdsjdsj jdj. djkdjsdso woosjdsod sosksksk skskpspspsusgsdflgflos

sdfododo ojh eopoefkfpdk sjsdhjfejekfpe jdfowjwsjfwj adjjdsjdsj jdj djkdjsdso woosjdsod sosksksk

skskpspspsusgsdflgflos sdfododo ojh eopoefkfpdk sjsdhjfejekfpe. jdfowjwsjfwj adjjdsjdsj jdj djkdjsdso

woosjdsod sosksksk skskpspspsusgsdflgflos sdfododo ojh eopoefkfpdk.

Everyone probably knows the quote, “To be or not to be.” You do not have to have read *Hamlet* by William Shakespeare to know this. But...do you know what it is about? In the play *Hamlet*, who is the Prince of Denmark, whose father the King has already died before the play even starts, is depressed and morose. His mother, the Queen has married his uncle, who is the new King. That is bad enough, but later Hamlet is visited by his father’s Ghost, who explains that the other man, his own brother, schemed with his wife to murder him. Hamlet is so distraught, he thinks about doing something...no, not revenge. He contemplates his own suicide. The famous words are about suicide: being alive or not.

Now, if you were going to write an essay on euthanasia, assisted suicide, or suicide and you start your essay with this quote, you would impress your reader of your scope of knowledge.

Such an opening quote is not actually part of your introduction paragraph. It is on a separate line between your original title (that you created for your essay) and paragraph one. You may want to make it look different by using italics, maybe even a slightly smaller font. Please remember: normally you must underline or italicize a published title of a play, a novel, a film, so...if you italicize(or underline) the quote, this time, you do not italicize or underline the title. It is opposite what you would treat a published title in an essay.

Oh, one more thing: when you create a title of your own, and you should, your title is just centered and most of the words are capitalized. You can find out on your own which title words do not get capitalized.

**TO DO:** Now let's see which quotes you already know.

**A)** Think of famous quotes or quote you like. Where do they come from? Think of any quotes you know from the following sources and write them down:

- from the Bible
- from history That which was news when it happened if it lasts become history
- from literature (a play, a novel, a poem, a short story)
- from movies
- from music
- from commercials

**Quotes:**

1. **"There's no place like home" (Wizard of Oz)**
2. **"My mama always said life was like a box of chocolates. You never know what you're gonna get." (Forrest Gump)**
3. **"Keep your friends close but your enemies closer." (The Godfather Part II)**
4. **"Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that (Martin Luther King Jr.)**

**TO DO:** Now comes the rest of the assignment which you should also write down and send it in as an email attachment or post for others to see and share. You may, of course, Google these:

**B)** Please look for good quotes **ABOUT** the following, one quote for each:

**Money**

**Work**

**Children**

**Marriage**

**Religion**

**C. Separately**, please look for quotes **BY the following people ABOUT** any subject, not just the subjects above:

**Abraham Lincoln**

**Mike Tyson**

**John Lennon**

**Marilyn Monroe**

**Mahatma Gandhi**

Then write them down or copy and paste according to this style:

*“Ask not what your country can do for you. Ask what you can do for your Country.”--John F. Kennedy*

**Explanation: we all know who Kennedy was, so just his name is sufficient.**

If for numbers 1 through 5, you never heard of the writer or speaker, research what that person is or was, like poet, philosopher, etc.

*“After all, Ginger Rogers did everything that Fred Astaire did. She just did it backwards and in high heels.”--Ann Richards, the 45th governor of Texas*

**Explanation: most do not know who Richards was, so you add more about her (above).**

**Most students probably do not know who Fred Astaire and Ginger Rogers were: a dance team, two actors who made several movies together in the 1930s. A beautiful scene of theirs is in the prison drama *The Green Mile* (the main sequence starts at the 00:02:15 minute mark):**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qSo5dDoXYAM>

Separately, here is a YouTube sampling of their work:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8MANfbqtZNO>

( Reread the quote about them. The point is that the woman did everything the man did but for her it was harder because of her shoes and the fact that usually men take the lead in ballroom dancing, so the women do the steps backwards...)

**One last thing: for such quotes to be effective, they must be accurate, and here is where you should Google to make sure.**

JFK did not say “Don’t ask.” He said “Ask not.”