

BLOCK QUOTATIONS

Block quotations are longer quotations, which for visual distinction are further indented from the main body of a paragraph. This is in contrast to shorter quotations, which use quotation marks to indicate that the text is borrowed.

LENGTH:

- For APA, quotations longer than 40 words are placed in freestanding blocks of text
- For MLA, quotations longer than four lines are placed in freestanding blocks of text

FORMAT:

- Block quotations begin on a new line
- Quotation marks are omitted
- Every line of the quotation is indented ½ inch from the rest of the paragraph, forming a block of text
- A period is placed at the end of a block quotation
- The parenthetical citation follows after the period
- After the block quotation, continue the body of the paragraph without added indent or line break

AMOUNT:

- Extremely long quotations should be avoided
- A college paper should include less than 20% quoted material
- A four to six page paper should not include more than one or two longer or block quotations
- Summary and paraphrase are excellent alternatives to quotations (and whichever of these a writer uses, an in-text citation is always required)

EXAMPLE:

A common example of a block quotation using *Lorem ipsum* would read:

 Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit, sed do eiusmod tempor incididunt ut labore et dolore magna aliqua. Ut enim ad minim veniam, quis nostrud exercitation ullamco laboris nisi ut aliquip ex ea commodo consequat. Duis aute irure dolor in reprehenderit in voluptate velit esse cillum dolore eu fugiat nulla pariatur. Excepteur sint occaecat cupidatat non proident, sunt in culpa qui officia deserunt mollit anim id est laborum. (Citation)

Lorem ipsum is used as placeholder text to demonstrate visual layout; it has no meaningful content.

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