

TABLE COPY

Introduction Paragraphs – Using Quotations Effectively

Assume that you have been hired by People magazine to write a brief article about the person you are assigned to interview. Unfortunately, the magazine does not have a lot of space left this month, so your article will have to focus on one specific area of this person's life.

You have already interviewed your partner to discover her or his interests, talents, likes, and dislikes. Now that you know a little about one another, determine one area of particular interest. You will need to write this information down as you will turn in your interview notes, as well as your final product. Do not ask only "yes" or "no" questions as you will get little in-depth information.

Every publication has certain formats that authors are expected to follow, and yours will be as follows:

Title (Grabber related to article) No quotations or underlining, centered
Assertion / Claim – statement which states your opinion or belief and introduces the topic

Introduction to a quotation, which includes the person's name

Quotation that proves or illustrates the assertion (It should be in the same sentence as the introduction to the quotation, although you may have two sentences to the quotation.)

Commentary on the quotation which explains your feelings about the quotation and concludes the article

This will result in one paragraph.

Things to Remember:

- Your paper should also have a correct heading in the upper right hand corner.
- The title should be centered with the first letter of the first and all important words capitalized.
- Paragraphs are indented; indent the first line of your paragraph.
- Include quotation marks around the exact words stated by the interviewee. It should relate in some way to your assertion.
- No "I." This is a paragraph about someone else, not a speech.
- Commentary should relate to the quotation or topic and explain your opinions, thoughts, or feelings about what the person has said or done.
- Conclusion lets the reader know you have completed what you have to say and wraps up the topic.