

Direct Quotations...The Next Step

most notes courtesy of Hilary Dreyer

Neutral Verbs: if you use a neutral verb to introduce a quotation, it basically means “says.”

The author says ...	The author notes ...
The author believes ...	The author observes ...
The author comments ...	The author relates ...
The author declares ...	The author remarks ...
The author discusses ...	The author reports ...
The author explains ...	The author reveals ...
The author expresses ...	The author states ...
The author mentions ...	The author acknowledges ...
The author suggests ...	The author thinks ...
The author points out ...	The author responds ...
The research shows ...	The research confirms ...

Ex: As the character **notes**, “In an ideal world, you would understand that what I have done is necessary for my well-being and has absolutely nothing to do with the rest of this family.”

Stronger Verbs: If you use a stronger verb to introduce the quotation, it shows that there is an **argument** and the speaker either **supports** or **disagrees** with it.

The author agrees ...	The author rejects ...
The author argues ...	The author compares the two studies ...
The author asserts ...	The author admits ...
The author cautions ...	The author disputes ...
The author emphasizes ...	The author contends ...
The author insists ...	The author denies ...
The author maintains ...	The author insists ...
The author claims ...	The author endorses ...
The author refutes ...	The author agrees ...

Ex: The character **argues** that “subjecting me to your drinking binges only makes me want to stay away from you for longer periods of time. You have no idea how your drinking affects me.”

Inference Verbs: If you use an inference verb to introduce the quotation, it is used to **analyze** the quotation.

The author implies ...
The author suggests ...
The author thinks ...

Ex: By calling them ignorant, the character **implies** that “they were unschooled and narrow minded.”

Warranting Quotations

What is 'Warranting' a quotation?

Warranting means taking the time to fully explain a quotation. It eliminates the common habit of simply restating what the quotation has already said. It enables a writer to use a quotation to prove and argument.

Why Warrant?

If you don't **warrant** the quotation, the reader will be confused as to:

Why it is there
What it means
What its significance is

If you do **warrant** the quotation, the reader will not be confused and will understand
WHAT YOU ARE TRYING TO SAY

If you **warrant** the quotation, the reader will understand **WHY IT IS THERE.**

Ex: "Winston stood watching [his sister] for a moment. Then with a sudden swift spring he had snatched the piece of chocolate out of his sister's hand and was fleeing for the door" (Orwell 170). In **this** example of Winston's behaviour, he has made it very clear that he is inherently selfish and that his need for self-preservation and survival overcomes such strong bonds as sibling loyalty.

If you **warrant** the quotation, the reader will understand **WHAT THE QUOTATION MEANS.**

Ex: In his dream of the Golden Country, Winston reveals his thoughts about Julia's gesture when he remarks, "With its grace and carelessness it seemed to annihilate a whole culture, a whole system of thought, as though Big Brother and the Party and the Thought Police could all be swept into nothingness by a single splendid movement of the arm (Orwell 33). **This** gesture of Julia's **demonstrates** Winston's desire for an earlier time, when individual thoughts and decisions were the norm as opposed to the present where conformity is paramount.

If you **warrant** the quotation, the reader will understand **WHAT THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE QUOTATION IS.**

Ex: Orwell writes, "[Winston's] mother drew her arm round the child and pressed its face against her breast" (Orwell 170). **This** memory is **significant** for Winston because it allows him to understand that, in the past, if a person loved someone, they loved very deeply. If they had nothing else to give, they gave love. He is now able to contrast that to his present where Winston recognizes that the Party persuades people to think that impulses and feelings are unimportant, ultimately robbing a person of their power.