

250-960-6367

Quotes that are not introduced are
introduction and integration of a quote:

There are three basic steps to the

1) Introduce the quote:

According to the ASC,

2) Explain what the author means by the quote:

In this quotation, the ASC is explaining one of the most common punctuation errors.

3) Explain why the quote is important to your argument:

Since commas are often misused by university students, it would be beneficial to have thorough punctuation and grammar lessons taught in public schools.

Each paragraph should contain ___ main idea, and include the following elements:

1) A _____ that tells the reader what the paragraph will be about;

2) _____ to support your topic sentence; and

3) _____ or _____ to summarize and explain the importance of your point in the context of your thesis statement. This remark should also transition to the next paragraph.

If a paragraph has all of its pieces, each idea should be properly explained and analyzed. Do not introduce several ideas in one paragraph. Conversely, do not use multiple paragraphs to illustrate one main idea, as this can confuse the reader.

A comma splice occurs when the author separates two independent clauses with only a comma. (Independent clauses are sentences that can stand alone.)

X The students started the experiment, all of the chemicals were outdated.

To fix a comma splice you can either:

1) Replace the comma with a period to separate the two independent clauses. (Be careful that _____)

The students started the experiment. All of the chemicals were outdated.

2) Use a semicolon to divide two independent but directly related clauses.

The students started the experiment; all of the chemicals were outdated.

3) Add a coordinating conjunction (joining word) to separate the clauses (e.g., for, and, nor).

The students started the experiment, but all of the chemicals were outdated.

4) Use a semicolon as well as a conjunctive adverb.

X The students started the experiment, however, the chemicals were outdated.

The students started the experiment; however, the chemicals were outdated.

Sentences can become unclear if ambiguous pronouns or vague referents are present.

- 1) A pronoun is a word that takes the place of a noun. An ambiguous pronoun is when it is unclear which noun the pronoun was meant to replace.

The owner gave the dog her

In this example it is unclear which noun is supposed to represent, the dog or the owner. To solve this problem, an author can provide further explanation to make the sentence clearer.

The owner gave the dog her a toy.

- 2) A referent is a word that refers to something else. An ambiguous referent is when it is unclear what the referent is referring to. Examples of referents include: this or that.

Bill played guitar daily. This