

Quote Blending Practice!

Quotes are useful in writing because they serve to validate your point. Choose your quotes carefully, however; the best quotes are the ones that if you tried to paraphrase them, they would lose some of their power.

When using quotes, it is important to incorporate, or “blend” them seamlessly into your own words within a sentence. Do NOT put quotes alone in a sentence. Instead, introduce them in a way that they are part of your own sentence.

PRACTICE: Blend each of the following quotes seamlessly into a sentence that you create. You may NOT begin the quote with, “Ford said, ‘.....’”. Be more creative than that!

Example: “I will love the light for it shows me the way. Yet I will endure the darkness because it shows me the stars.” Og Mandino

Blended: Even though times may be difficult, it is important to be positive and “love the light for it shows me the way [while] endur[ing] the darkness because it shows me the stars” (Mandino).

Notice that brackets [] were used to show that words were added or changed. You would do this when the quote as written does not flow well with your sentence. Use brackets if needed to change or add words and make the sentence flow!

Also notice that as long as you maintain the integrity of the quote (convey the same meaning), you can use whatever part(s) you would like to fit your purpose.

1. “If you think you can do a thing or think you can’t do a thing, you’re right.” Henry Ford
2. “A happy person is not a person in a certain set of circumstances, but rather a person with a certain set of attitudes.” Hugh Downs
3. “Kindness is the language which the deaf can hear and the blind can see.” Mark Twain
4. “Be the change that you want to see in the world.” Mahatma Gandhi
5. “The greatest test of courage is to bear defeat without losing heart.” Robert Ingersoll
6. “We are the choices we make.” Meryl Streep
7. “We are continually faced with great opportunities brilliantly disguised as insoluble problems.” Lee lococca