Integrating Quotations

Using Quotations: Quotations are used to support the argument being made within the essay. Because quotations are taken out of context and used within your own text, it is necessary that you explain what the quote means and how the reader is supposed to apply that meaning to your purpose or argument. It is the responsibility of the writer to create context by introducing and explaining the quotes used and the rationale behind their use. In order to create a coherent and cohesive paragraph, it is necessary for the context of the quotes to be effective and for the reader to smoothly transition from the writer’s words to the quote, and then back again.

Paragraph Development (for each body paragraph!):

Topic Sentence and Other Introductory Information: (Example: One trait of Dr. Seuss’ writing can be seen in the rhythm of the words when they are read aloud.)

Introduction to Quote: (Example: Dr. Seuss uses simple words and phrases making the rhythm distinct and simple. In *Green Eggs and Ham*, this rhythm is apparent when he says. . .)

Quotation: (Example: . . . “I do not like green eggs and ham; I do not like them Sam I Am”)

Author: ____________________________
Page Number: ____________
Source: ____________________________

Explanation of Quote: (The use of simple words creates a melodic and sing-song rhythm.)

Refer back to Thesis and Transition to Next Paragraph: (Example: The rhythm of the words helps to create vivid images that children are fond of and can relate to. [paragraph break] The images seen in Dr. Seuss’ works remain in the minds of the children after the story is complete.)

Adapted from *The Penguin Handbook* and the BHSU English Department by Lisa Krugh
Black Hills State University Writing Center, 2007.