

Department of English

FORM FOR QUOTATIONS AND CITATIONS

If the quotation is **two lines or less**, incorporate it into your own text with quotation marks around it.

example: Lust is "past reason hunted; and no sooner had, / Past reason hated,"
according to Shakespeare's Sonnet 129 (6-7).

If the quotation is **three or more lines**, omit the quotation marks and indent the quotation five spaces from both the left and right margins.

example: In Sonnet 97, Shakespeare uses metaphors of human fertility to describe the seasons:

And yet this time removed was summer's time,
The teeming autumn big with rich increase,
Bearing the wanton burthen of the prime,
Like widowed wombs after their lords' decease.
(5-9)

If your quotation is **poetry**, preserve the integrity of the lines; do not run them together as if they were prose. If the quotation is too short to be indented, use a **slash** (leaving a space on both sides) to mark the line break, as in the first example above.

Cite **poetry** by **line numbers** (also by book, canto, or stanza where appropriate); cite **prose** by **page numbers**; and cite **drama** by **act, scene and line numbers** (using page numbers only when there are no line numbers).

If you have only **one source**, identify it at your first citation, and for subsequent citations merely cite page or line, as explained and exemplified above. If you have **more than one source**, list your sources in a bibliography at the end of your essay, and cite them in your text by a simple reference.

Example: Willson argues that Dryden's key error in the design of this character was his "failure . . . to see the impracticality of translating the imaginary realm of heroic poetry into the idiom of the stage" (Willson 83).

Works Cited

Willson, Robert F., Jr. *"Their Form Confounded": Studies in the Burlesque Play from Udall to Sheridan*. Paris: Mouton, 1975.