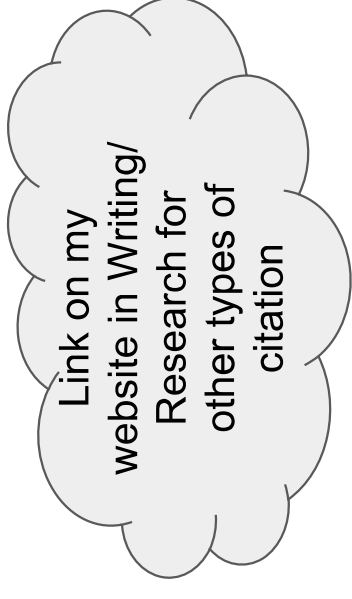


Introduction Paragraph for History Essays

- **Historical Context:** *This provides your reader with some of the background knowledge necessary to understand the argument you will make in your essay.*
 - Establish a time period
 - Introduce the topic: What was going on around the time you are writing about? What were the relevant major events?
 - Define key terms/concepts (ex. Humanism, imperialism, revolution, natural rights, Enlightenment idea)
- **Thesis:** *Your paper's argument*

MLA In-text Citation

- Physical book source → (author's last name page number)
(Achebe 88)
- Other source
 - One author → (Anderson)
 - Two author → (Nguyen and Cucinelli)
 - Multiple author → (Nguyen et al.)
 - No author?? → ("*italicized shortened title*")

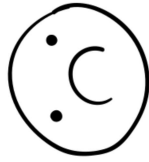


"The Impact of Global Warming in North America." *Global Warming: Early Signs*. 1999.
<http://www.climatehotmap.org/>. Accessed 23 Mar. 2009.

("The Impact of Global Warming")

Embedding Quotes

DO NOT! Just throw a quote in without a lead in or some sort of embedding



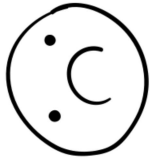
The Catholic Church throughout the Middle Ages and into the Renaissance remained extremely corrupted. “...In many places the priest paid the bishop a regular tax for the women with whom he lived, and for each child he had by her” (D’Abigne).



The Catholic Church throughout the Middle Ages and into the Renaissance remained extremely corrupted. Church officials often did not live by the moral teachings of the church, “in many places the priest paid the bishop a regular tax for the women with whom he lived, and for each child he had by her” (D’Abigne).

Embedding Quotes

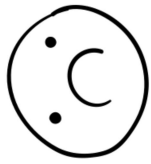
DO NOT! [Copy word for word a source and not put it in quotation mark](#)



Inspired by the French and American revolutions but dissatisfied with their hypocrisies, the charismatic Toussaint L'Ouverture led the Haitian people from slavery to individual freedom (Taylor). The Haitian Revolution helped establish the first black republic in the Americas and set a precedent for all other colonized people yearning for independent.

Embedding Quotes

DO NOT! ... use quotes to repeat the same thing you've written:



Jean Jacques Rousseau believes that people are born free. He says, “Man is born free” (Rousseau).

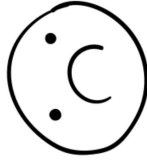


Jean Jacques Rousseau expresses his belief on equality by stating, “man is born free” (Rousseau).

Embedding Quotes

DO NOT! ...use quotes that are very long.

- Use the ellipsis (. . .) to focus on the section of the quote that makes your point. Use an ellipsis whenever a part of a sentence is omitted.
- Use paraphrasing to sum up a long part of the quote, then quote the important words.



According to Historian H.C. Davis, “. . . Medieval culture was imperfect, was restricted to a narrow circle of superior minds Measure it, however, by the memories and the achievements that it has bequeathed to the modern world, and it will be found not unworthy to rank with those of earlier and later Golden Ages. It flourished in the midst of rude surroundings, fierce passions, and material ambitions ... we must judge of them by their philosophy and law, by their poetry and architecture” (234).



Historian H.C. Davis argues that although, “Medieval culture was imperfect”, it is unfair to compare it to the period that came after (234).

Embedding Quotes

DO! [Provide Context - explain what's happening. This can be very brief.](#)



Peter wanted his court to emulate those of Western Europe, so he “personally cut off the beards of a group of nobles” (Axelrod).



One of the causes of economic troubles in France was a “financial crisis that was due in part to years of deficit spending” (Esler and Ellis).



Howard Zinn argues the dropping of the Atomic bombs on Japan was unnecessary, he claims that the government’s “estimates of invasion losses were not realistic, and seem to have been pulled out of the air to justify bombings” (442).

Body Paragraphs for History Essays

- Each paragraph should start with your body thesis
- Transition sentence
- Your evidence/quotes, in-text citation
- General analysis
- Specific analysis
- Transition sentence
- Next piece of evidence/quotes, in-text citation
- General analysis
- Specific analysis

Body Paragraphs Analysis

- **Explain your evidence** – *if needed*
- **Explain why your evidence is proving your argument**
- **Explain how your evidence connects to your argument**
- How well does the analysis of evidence connect it back to the thesis statement?
 - Easiest way to do this is connect to the so what

Conclusion

- **Restate your thesis** (DO NOT just copy and paste your thesis, rephrase it)
- **Summarize the main points** (your body theses)
- **Provide a definitive answer about your research question** – *it is absolutely vital that your conclusion makes specific reference to your research question*
- **DO NOT ASK A QUESTION!!**