

P O E T R Y

(4) Lines of Poetry

Incorporating citations from poetry is very similar to the methods used to integrate prose. Make note of the following examples:

Example A

The first stanza of Edgar Allan Poe's "The Raven" provides the starting point for the emotional irregularity that characterizes the speaker's condition throughout the poem. The speaker pointedly shares that "[o]nce upon a midnight dreary, while I pondered, weak and weary, / Over many a quaint and curious volume of forgotten lore -

/ While I nodded, nearly napping, suddenly there came a tapping" (lns. 1-3).

Physically exhausted, Poe's speaker

- É Separate lines of poetry with a slash (/) for up to 3 or 4 lines, depending on the length of the lines
- É Use brackets [] when text is altered from its original form in order to flow naturally in the new sentence in which it is integrated
- É Refer to specific poem lines using the abbreviation "lns."

Example B

The first stanza of Edgar Allan Poe's "The Raven" provides the starting point for the emotional irregularity that characterizes the speaker's condition throughout the poem. The speaker pointedly shares his frame of mind:

Once upon a midnight dreary, while I pondered, weak and weary,
Over many a quaint and curious volume of forgotten lore
While I nodded, nearly napping, suddenly there came a tapping,
As of someone gently rapping, rapping at my chamber door. (lns. 1-4).

Physically exhausted, Poe's speaker

- É When quoting more than 4 lines, introduce and double-indent
- É Preserve the capitalization at the start of each sentence
- É Present the text exactly as the author intended it

Warning! Warning! Warning! Warning!

AVOID THESE ...

Very important!

Sentences that state, "The following quotation shows"
Sentences that begin, "A quote in the poem that proves this is"
Sentences that begin, "One example of this can be found"

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