Easy as 1-2-3
3 Steps for Effectively Integrating Quotes as Evidence

Step 1

Provide context* for the quote

⇒ Help the reader to understand the source.

⇒ Use a signal phrase** or a sentence to lead in to the quote, using a comma or colon before the quote begins.

Step 2

Provide Quotation

⇒ Use quotation marks or create block quote***

⇒ Provide an in-text citation of the source of the quote in the required style.

Step 3

Explain the significance of the quote.

⇒ Interpret the quote and tell the reader how the idea in the quote supports and connects to your thesis.

*CONTEXT: background information necessary to fully understand an idea or event

**SIGNAL PHRASE: a phrase that mentions the author and/or title of a source to introduce a quote or paraphrase from that source

***BLOCK QUOTE: a way to format long quotes

Sample Quote

Step 1 →

Provide Context

Jessica Grose argues that cleaning the house still falls unfairly on women's shoulders in her article, "Cleaning: The Final Feminist Frontier." Grose notes,

Step 2 →

Provide Quote

"At its most basic, a reason why a lot of men don't want to clean is obvious: it's not fun. The rewards of the other two traditionally female household tasks—childcare and cooking—are palpable. Your kid's smile, a delicious meal. But not so with cleaning ([if this source had a page number, it would go here]).

Step 3 →

Explain the Quote's Significance

Here, Grose connects the task with its level of reward, which is much lower than the other types of housework. This reason may be true: Cleaning is not as fun or as rewarding, but it is not substantial enough to excuse men from doing their fair share of the housework.

Works Cited

Grose, Jessica. "Cleaning: The Final Feminist Frontier." *New Republic*, 19 Mar. 2014,

www.newrepublic.com/article/112693/112693.