Citing from the Humanities Textbook

Gilgamesh

Parenthetical Citation Examples

Example 1

From the beginning, the reader learns that Gilgamesh has been blessed with “courage” and a “beauty perfect, surpassing all others” (“From the Epic” 19; 10-11).

- This example uses a blended sentence in which the quoted passages from the literature are blended into the writer’s own sentence structure, with capitalization and punctuation reflecting that sentence structure created.

- Since this example does not include the author’s name in the signal phrase, it has to be included in the parenthetical citation.

- Since we do not know the author of the Epic of Gilgamesh, the parenthetical citation starts with a shortened form of the title that matches the beginning of the corresponding Works Cited entry. Also included in this citation are the page number (19) and the line numbers (10-11) showing where this passage can be found within this text.

- Notice that a semicolon is used to separate the page number from the line numbers. However, use just a space (no additional punctuation) between the source’s name and the page number. The end period gets placed after the parenthetical citation.

Example 2

In the excerpt “From the Epic of Gilgamesh,” the speaker reveals that Gilgamesh “wept for his friend Enkidu” (21; 16), and shortly after this Gilgamesh cries out, “Despair is in my heart. What my brother is now, that shall I be when I am dead” (21; 19-20).

- This example uses a blended sentence in which the quoted passages from the literature are blended into the writer’s own sentence structure, with capitalization and punctuation reflecting that sentence structure created.

- This example includes the source’s name (“From the Epic of Gilgamesh”) in the signal phrase. Therefore, the parenthetical citation for this source requires only the page number (21) and the line number (16).

- Notice that a semicolon is used to separate the page number from the line number. The end period gets placed after the parenthetical citation.

**Title of Source**
- The title of the source is the title of the work the quoted words come from. The words quoted above are found in “From the *Epic of Gilgamesh.*” The words are not material from the textbook itself.
- Because the source is a shorter work, the title is placed in quotation marks.
- A period appears within the quotation marks to signify the end of the title.

**Title of Source’s Container**
- The source’s container is the work that contains the source. The textbook *The Humanistic Tradition* contains “From the *Epic of Gilgamesh.*”
- Because a textbook is a larger work, the title is italicized.
- A comma is the appropriate punctuation for separating the title of the container from the rest of the information about the container.

**Container’s Other Contributors**
- The words “written by” are added before the container’s author’s name to indicate the type of contribution Gloria K. Fiero made.
- The names of any contributors are listed normally: first name, middle name, last name.
- Use a comma to separate this piece of information from the next.

**Container’s Version**
- Use an ordinal number to signify the edition.
- The word “edition” is abbreviated.
- Use a comma to separate this piece of information from the next.

**Container’s Number**
- In this instance, the textbook is one of a collection of books. To indicate which one is being cited, the book number is added.
- The word “book” is abbreviated.
- Use a comma to separate this piece of information from the next.

**Container’s Publisher**
- Use a comma to separate this piece of information from the next.

**Container’s Publication Date**
- Use a comma to separate this piece of information from the next.

**Location of Source within the Container**
- A “pp.” appears as an abbreviation for the page numbers the source appears on in the container.
- Conclude the citation with a period.