

# QUOTE IT!

## Quotation Introduction Examples and Citation Tips

### From Of Mice and Men

John Steinbeck

1937

“Lennie dabbled his big paw in the water and wiggled his fingers so the water arose in little splashes; rings widened across the pool on the other side and came back again. Lennie watched them go. ‘Look, George. Look what I done’” (Steinbeck 9).

### 1. Introduce your quote with a complete sentence followed by a colon.

In the beginning of the novel, Steinbeck uses personification to introduce and develop Lennie’s character: “Lennie dabbled his big paw in the water and wiggled his fingers so the water arose in little splashes; rings widened across the pool on the other side and came back again” (9).

**NOTE:** When you include the author’s last name in the introduction, you only need to cite the page number. If it is not included, you cite the author’s last name and page number.

In the beginning of the novel, Lennie is splashing in the water and he watches as the water ripples: “Lennie watched them go. ‘Look, George. Look what I done’” (Steinbeck 9).

**NOTE:** When you quote a quote, you first introduce your quote with a normal quotation mark. When you introduce the quote or dialogue, you open and close it with just one quotation mark. Be sure to close both sets of quotation marks before you cite it.

### 2. Introduce your quote with an explanatory phrase followed by a comma.

In the exposition, Steinbeck describes Lennie’s childish manner as he, “[dabbles] his big paw in the water and [wiggles] his fingers so the water arose in little splashes” (9).

**NOTE:** You can place brackets [ ] around words that you change to make the grammar from your introduction match the quote.

### 3. Write a sentence containing only short quotes.

Conveying Lennie as a large and simplistic character, Steinbeck describes Lennie’s hand as a “big paw” (9).

### 4. Introduce your quote by paraphrasing it first.

In the beginning of the novel, Lennie is dipping his hand in the water and moving his fingers “so the water arose in little splashes” (Steinbeck 9).

