3.2 Developing a paragraph with claim and evidence

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____ **Total: 17 marks**

KEY WORDS integrate • quotation • signal phrase • dropped quotation • image • self-reliance

Objective

Build the skills to **integrate quotations** smoothly: short, well-chosen words from a text, set inside your own sentences and explained.

You must be able to:

- tell a dropped quotation from an integrated one
- choose the shortest quotation that does the job
- explain a quotation with commentary

1 Key knowledge and worked examples

Dropped or integrated?

	example
dropped (weak)	Emerson believes in the self. "Trust thyself: every heart vibrates to that iron string."
integrated (strong)	Emerson compares conviction to an "iron string" that every heart "vibrates to," suggesting self-trust is natural and strong.

Three ways to integrate

method	example
a signal phrase	As Emerson insists, "..."
a few words inside your sentence	Emerson mocks "a foolish consistency" as a weakness of "little minds."
a colon after a full sentence	Emerson states his rule plainly: "Trust thyself."

Keep quotations short

Quote the **key words** only. Then explain them: what they mean, and how they serve the writer's purpose. Long quotations leave no room for commentary.

Worked example

Task: integrate "A foolish consistency is the hobgoblin of little minds."

Answer: Emerson calls blind consistency a "hobgoblin," a childish monster, so readers see the fear of changing one's mind as something small and silly, not wise.

2 Practice

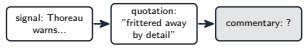
2.1 Identify which version integrates the quotation, and explain why: A "Bacon talks about reading. 'Some books are to be tasted.'" B "Bacon suggests that some books are only to be 'tasted,' sampled rather than studied." [2]



2.2 Explain why short quotations are usually better than long ones in an analysis essay. [3]



2.3 Integrate this quotation into a sentence with commentary: Thoreau wrote, "Our life is frittered away by detail." [3]



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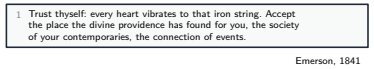
3 Exam-style questions

3.1 Read the passage.

> "Trust thyself: every heart vibrates to that iron string. Accept the place the divine providence has found for you, the society of your contemporaries, the connection of events."

Ralph Waldo Emerson, "Self-Reliance", 1841

(a) Identify the command Emerson gives. [1]



(b) Explain the effect of the image "that iron string". [1]

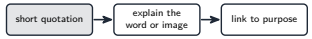
(c) Integrate two words from the passage into a sentence of your own. [1]

3.2 Read the second passage.

> "A foolish consistency is the hobgoblin of little minds, adored by little statesmen and philosophers and divines. With consistency a great soul has simply nothing to do."

Ralph Waldo Emerson, "Self-Reliance", 1841

Write one paragraph that analyzes how Emerson persuades readers to stop worrying about consistency. Integrate at least two short quotations from the passages in Questions 3.1 and 3.2. [6]



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Solutions

Marking: **M1** a correct method, **A1** the correct answer, **B1** an independent mark.

Each answer shows the steps, then the **result**.

2.1

version B integrates the quotation; because the quoted word sits inside the writer's own sentence and is explained ("sampled rather than studied"), while A drops it in with no link

2.2

short quotations pick out the exact words that show the writer's choice; they leave space for commentary, which earns most of the credit; long quotations often repeat the text without analysis, so the reader cannot see what the student noticed

2.3

an integrated sentence that quotes accurately, for example: Thoreau warns that our lives are "frittered away by detail,"; with commentary on a word or effect, for example "frittered" suggests small, careless waste; and on the purpose, for example to push readers to simplify their lives

3.1

(a) "Trust thyself"

(b) it suggests self-trust is strong and shared by every person, like a string that every heart responds to

(c) an accurate, integrated sentence, for example: Emerson claims every heart answers the same "iron string," so self-trust is universal

3.2

thesis: a defensible thesis about how Emerson persuades, for example that he mocks consistency and makes self-trust feel natural

evidence: an integrated quotation such as "foolish consistency" or "hobgoblin"; a second integrated quotation, for example "little minds" or "iron string"

commentary: commentary on the first quotation: how the image or word affects readers; commentary on the second quotation, linked to Emerson's purpose

sophistication: explains a tension or wider point, for example that Emerson's absolute style is itself a bold act of self-trust, or what his readers in 1841 valued

model: "Emerson makes consistency look childish and self-trust look natural. He calls a 'foolish consistency' the 'hobgoblin of little minds,' a phrase that shrinks careful people into frightened children afraid of an imaginary monster. By contrast, self-trust is an 'iron string' to which 'every heart vibrates,' an image of strength shared by all. Readers are left with an easy choice: to be 'little,' or to trust the voice already inside them. Emerson's own confident, unqualified sentences practice the independence he preaches."

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