



**BLUE
BOOK
WEDNESDAY**

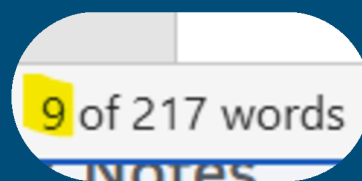
Tip #7

BLOCK QUOTES

Rule 5.1(a)

If your direct quote is over 50 words, it should be in a block quote.

Tip: To quickly count the words in your quote, select it in your Word document. Look in the bottom left corner of Word and the word count will be there.



INDENTATION

The block quote itself should be set off from the text. *The Bluebook* doesn't specify how much. (I indent mine 0.5" on each side.)

PARAGRAPHS

If the block quote starts from the beginning of the paragraph in the source, the first line should be indented (meaning the first line starts at 1" if your block quote is indented on the left at 0.5"). If not, then the first line is not further indented.

QUOTATION MARKS

Unlike in-text direct quotes, block quotes do not start or end with quotation marks.

Quotation marks, if any, should appear as they do in the quoted text.

EXAMPLE

Melanie's BBW post today was about block quotes. It was helpful because I've been confused about them. Quoting Rule 5.2, she wrote: "[Q]uotation marks within a block quotation should appear as they do in the original."

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