**Block Quotes**

The block quote is used for direct quotations that are longer than 4 lines. Indent the entire quote 1 inch or 12-16 spaces. Place quotations longer than four typed lines in a free-standing block of typewritten lines, and omit quotation marks. Start the quotation on a new line, indented one inch from the left margin, and maintain double-spacing. Your parenthetical citation should come after the closing punctuation mark.

Example:

At the conclusion of Lord of the Flies, Ralph and the other boys realize the horror of their actions:

The tears began to flow and sobs shook him. He gave himself up to them now for the first time on the island; great, shuddering spasms of grief that seemed to wrench his whole body. His voice rose under the black smoke before the burning wreckage of the island; and infected by that emotion, the other little boys began to shake and sob too. (186)

* **Block Quotations: Quotations that are four (4) typed lines or longer must be set off from the text by beginning a new line, indenting one inch (ten spaces) on the left margin and double spacing. Do not use quotation marks.**

In the first paragraph of his short story “Looking for Work,” Gary Soto reveals the problem that complicated his childhood:

I had a nine-year-old’s vision of wealth that would save us from ourselves. For weeks I had drunk Kool-Aid and watched *Father Knows Best*, whose family was so uncomplicated in its routine that I very much wanted to imitate it. The first step was to get my brother and sister to wear shoes at dinner. (145)

Note: Block quotations often introduce a great deal of information, so you must be extremely careful using them: Remember, you are responsible for explaining *all* of the ideas and concepts and language that is introduced by a quotation. Do not relinquish your control of your text to another author. Furthermore, use a colon after the introductory phrase. Type the quotation out to the right margin and indent only on the left margin.