

## Brackets

### 1. Incorporating a quotation into your ideas:

- Soto reveals his early influences when he explains that “for weeks [he] had drunk Kool-Aid and watched *Father Knows Best*” (145).

Note: The brackets around *he* tell the reader that you have changed the word (or words) so that the sentence will make sense. Also, notice how much more this sentence offers the reader compared to the first three sentences; always try to integrate and subordinate the quotations to your ideas.

=

- **Omit any unnecessary information from a quotation by using an ellipsis (three periods).**

When he explains that “for weeks [he] had [...] watched *Father Knows Best*,” Soto reveals his early influence.

As young Gary is “killing ants [...] with a rolled newspaper,” we understand that something is troubling him.

- **If pronouns are used in the original quotation, you may have to clarify the meaning by replacing the pronoun with a bracketed antecedent.**

Because he watched the family on *Father Knows Best*, “[Soto] very much wanted to imitate it” (145).