FOUR WAYS TO QUOTE FROM TEXT:

• speaker/source
• quoted words
• explanation/elaboration/interpretation

{ all variations include these 3 in some order }

EASIEST: two sentences
speaker interpretation quote
Malcolm X was frustrated by his inability to read. He admits, “I not only wasn’t articulate, I wasn’t even functional.”

quote speaker interpretation
“I not only wasn’t articulate, I wasn’t even functional,” Malcolm X admits. His words show his frustration with being illiterate.

EASY: one sentence followed by colon + quoted words
speaker explanation quote
Malcolm X decided on a plan to copy an entire dictionary: “...I copied into my tablet everything printed on that first page...I was so fascinated that I went on- I copied the dictionary’s next page.”

speaker explanation quote
Malcolm X was inspired by Bimbi, a cellmate in Charlestown Prison, to learn to read and write: “Bimbi had always taken charge of any conversation he was in, and I had tried to emulate him.”

HARDER: one sentence with three parts separated
speaker quote explanation
Malcolm X insists [that] “up to then, I never had been so truly free in my life” as he describes the outcome of learning to read.

speaker quote explanation
Malcolm X points out [that] “Anyone who has read a great deal can imagine the new world that opened” to him, words that describe the outcome of becoming literate.

HARDEST: one sentence with quote integrated
speaker quote explanation
Malcolm X says when he picked up a book most of the words “...might as well have been in Chinese” as an example of his difficulty with reading

quote speaker explanation
“Books” is the answer Malcolm X gave when a writer asked him what was his alma mater.