**Verse (line) Quotations**

If you quote all or part of a **single line of verse**, put it in quotation marks within your text.

Berowne’s pyrotechnic line “Light, seeking light, doth light of light beguile” (**I.i.77**) is a text-book example of antanaclasis.

(I.i.77) stands for (**I** = Act. **i** = scene. **77** = the line) – use Roman numerals for Acts (uppercase) and Scenes(lowercase)… and don’t forget the periods

You may also incorporate **two or three lines** in the same way, using a slash with a space on each side [ **/** ] to separate them.

Claudius alludes to the story of Cain and Abel when describing his crime: “It hath the primal eldest curse upon’t, **/** A brother’s murder” (III.iii.37–38).

Set verse quotations **of more than three lines as block quotations**: start a new line and set each line one inch in from the left margin, adding no quotation marks not appearing in the original. If the quotation starts in the middle of a line of verse, reproduce it that way, don’t shift it to the left margin.

Jaques begins his famous speech by comparing the world to a theater:

All the world’s a stage

And all the men and women merely players:

They have their exits and their entrances;

And one man in his time plays many parts,

His acts being seven ages. (II.vii.138–42)

He then proceeds to enumerate and analyze these ages.

**Dialogue Quotations**

If you **quote dialogue between characters in a play**, set it as a block quotation as described above. Begin each part of the dialogue with the appropriate character’s name written in all capital letters. Place a period after the name; then start the quotation. Indent any subsequent lines of the character’s speech an extra quarter inch. When the dialogue shifts to a new character, start a new line. Maintain this pattern throughout the quotation.

The Christians in Venice taunt Shylock about his daughter’s elopement:

SHYLOCK. She is damned for it.

SALARINO. That’s certain, if the devil may be her judge.

SHYLOCK. My own flesh and blood to rebel!

SOLANIO. Out upon it, old carrion! Rebels it at these years?

SHYLOCK. I say my daughter is my flesh and my blood.

SALARINO. There is more difference between thy flesh and hers than between jet and ivory, more between your bloods than there is between red wine and Rhenish. (III.i.29–38)