

Lesson 3: Quote the Experts

UNIT: Skatepark

TRANSCRIPT

HOOK 1

Hi, writers. It's Margaret. Mia is so excited about having a skatepark, especially because some skateparks aren't just for skateboarding.

Check out this amazing athlete, Aaron 'Wheelz' Fotheringham. He practices different tricks at a skatepark. After enough practice, he became the first person to do a backflip in a wheelchair. Whoa!

Mia hopes one day she and her friends will have a place to practice tricks like this, too—no matter what wheels they have!

In the last lesson, you started writing a letter to Mia's mayor. You wrote a whole paragraph by taking Mia's first reason and adding things like evidence about Atita Verghese, an explanation of this evidence, and a sentence to restate the thesis and reason.

Today, you're going to take the second reason and add these things to make it into a whole paragraph, too. In her letter, Mia wants to start with the reason and use it as her first sentence so the mayor will know what this paragraph is about:

- Skateparks are an opportunity for kids to exercise and stay healthy.

Next, she reads her notes from Dr. Ikenna's interview to remember the important parts she wants to include in her paragraph. Then she put a few sentences together. Here's what she came up with so far:

- Skateboarding is a great way to exercise. It's also a fun way to stay active while strengthening your heart, lungs, and muscles. Skateparks encourage people to be active.

Mia got this information from Dr. Ikenna's interview. But since she doesn't mention his name or what his job is, she wonders if the mayor will read this and think, "How do you know that?"

DISCUSSION 1

Discuss: What can Mia add to her writing to let the mayor know this information is from an expert?

HOOK 2

I'm not sure how you answered, but Mia thinks it would help if her letter included quotes from Dr. Ikenna's interview. That way, if Mia has an expert agreeing with her, her letter will be even more convincing.

Now, Mia can use both her notes and some quotes from the interview in her writing. Mia has never used quotes in her writing before. And she isn't really sure how to use them in a paragraph.

She knows her paragraph will start with her reason, evidence, and an explanation of this evidence. The quotes will go with the evidence, but she doesn't want them to come out of nowhere and seem out of place. She wants them to fit in with her writing.

To learn how other writers make quotes fit in their writing, she looked at some other books on skateboarding. Check out this quote she found:

- *Skateboarding is an activity that combines physical exercise with creativity.*

Mia read what came before and after the quote to figure out how the author fit it in with the rest of the writing.

- *According to pro skateboarder Tony Hawk, "Skateboarding is an activity that combines physical exercise with creativity." That means skateboarders use their imagination to perform skills and tricks on their skateboards.*

DISCUSSION 2

Look at this quote. What do you notice about what came before and after this quote?

HOOK 3

I'm not sure how you answered, but Mia noticed that the author is letting the reader know who said the quote and what makes him an expert—and he's definitely an expert! Tony Hawk was the first person to do one of the most complicated tricks on a skate ramp. Check it out. Wow!

Mia also noticed that this sentence is an explanation of what the quote means. She wants to try this in her writing. Here's a quote from Dr. Ikenna that she wants to use.

- *Skateboarding is a fun way to stay active and also strengthens your heart, lungs, and muscles.*

Watch how she includes this quote. First, Mia needs to introduce who the expert is. She can find this information in the bottom half of the Skate Weekly Newsletter right here under the title. She can add a few words to introduce him. According to Dr. Lou Ikenna,

Sports Medicine Specialist. Next, she can write the quote. Now she needs an explanation.

DISCUSSION 3

Discuss: How would you explain this quote?

Try starting your sentence like this:

- This is important because...

HOOK 4

You probably came up with some great ideas. Here's what Mia wrote:

- This is important because skateparks can be a place for people to be active and get stronger!

Now that Mia has an explanation to go with this quote, it fits in with the rest of her paragraph. There's still a lot of great information and quotes in Dr. Ikenna's interview. So, she wants to use another quote to add more to her paragraph and make her reason even more convincing.

Mia is ready to continue drafting her paragraph using her notes and quotes from the newsletter.

Today, you'll use your evidence from Reason 2 and quotes from your newsletter to draft your paragraph.

When you include expert quotes in your writing, you'll introduce the expert, include their quote and write a sentence to explain why it's important.

I'll get you started, step by step.

STEP 1

Get your supplies.

STEP 2

In today's lesson, you'll need someone to share ideas with. This could be a partner or someone you sit near. When everyone knows who their talk partner is, move on to the next step.

STEP 3

Find your Build Your Reasons worksheet and put it in front of you. You will be using these notes to draft your sentences for your letter.

STEP 4

Find the line down the middle.

Use the line down the middle to fold your page in half lengthwise, like this.

After you have folded it, find the side that says, "Reason 2," and place it next to your Reason 2 Draft worksheet.

STEP 5

Read over your notes to review important information from Dr. Ikenna's interview.

Give a silent thumbs up when you're ready to move on.

STEP 6

Before you begin drafting today, let's practice. Look at your Reason 2 Draft worksheet. At the top of the page, find the Expert Quote Practice box. One of Dr. Ikenna's quotes is included here, but it's missing the introduction.

Write the quote introduction here. You can use one of the sentence starters or come up with your own. The speaker's name and job are on the screen. See if you can use them both.

STEP 7

Here's what Mia wrote:

- According to Dr. Ikenna, Sports Medicine Specialist

It's okay if you wrote something different.

Next, we have the quote:

- Skateboarding is great for improving your balance.

To show that these are Dr. Ikenna's exact words, you can put them in quotations, like this. A comma can go here, to separate the introduction from the quote.

Fill in the comma and the quotations for this quote.

STEP 8

Next, you need to explain how this quote is important to this reason:

- Skateparks are an opportunity for kids to exercise and stay healthy.

Discuss with your partner: Explain how this quote is important to the reason. Try starting your sentence using one of these.

STEP 9

Use one of these sentence starters to write your explanation sentence on the lines, here.

STEP 10

Here's what Mia wrote:

- This shows that a skatepark can give kids a place to get stronger and get better body control.

It's okay if you wrote something different.

Now it's time to start your draft for Reason 2. Look at the *Skate Weekly* Newsletter. Find two quotes of your choice from Dr. Ikenna's interview that you want to use in your paragraph and highlight them. Remember to pick quotes that will help support your reason.

STEP 11

Now, look at your Build Your Reasons worksheet and find "Reason 2". This will be the first sentence of your paragraph. Copy it here at the icon on your Reason 2 Draft worksheet.

STEP 12

It's time to write the rest of your paragraph. Choose which quote from the two you highlighted that you would like to use first. Since these are Dr. Ikenna's words, you'll

need to copy them exactly. Remember to first write an introduction for Dr. Ikenna, followed by a comma. Then write the quote in quotations.

If you're not sure what to write, look back at your practice.

STEP 13

Now write your explanation after your quote. You can try starting your sentence using one of these examples.

When you're done writing, give a silent thumbs up.

STEP 14

It's time to continue drafting your paragraph. You'll include the other quote you highlighted, an explanation, and any other notes that will help make your paragraph more convincing. You can always look at the practice section on your worksheet to check that your quotes fit.

Your teacher will tell you how long you have to draft.

STEP 15

Now, it's time to write the last sentence of your paragraph. Your last sentence will restate the reason and the thesis. You can use this sentence or come up with your own.

WRAP UP

Wow, you just added another paragraph in your letter to Mia's mayor. Way to go! You used Dr. Ikenna's expert opinion and made your reason even more convincing with expert quotes. That deserves another trick from expert wheelchair athlete, Aaron Fotheringham.

In the next lesson, you'll draft an introduction and conclusion for your letter. Your letter will be one step closer to convincing the mayor to build a skatepark in Mia's community.

Make sure you put all your V.I.P.s somewhere safe. I'll see you next time.