

Quote Sandwiches

Top Bread—the introduction of the quotation. This includes the author introductory sentence such as *In his article, "The Importance of Writing Badly," Bruce Ballenger describes his take on the beginnings of the writing process.* As well as the quotation introduction, which could follow a number of templates like the following:

X states, "_____"

According to X, "_____"

X himself writes, "_____"

In her book, _____, X maintains that "_____"

The Meat & Veggies—the actual quotation being used.

Bottom Bread—What the writer gathers from the quotation. This is the part most students of writing forget about. Possible templates:

Basically, X is saying _____

In other words, X believes _____

X is insisting that _____

The essence of X's argument is that _____

Quote Sandwich Example Paragraph:

Not every single piece of writing may be perfect or have a purpose or function. But, sometimes those pieces may lead to a bigger, better piece of writing. In his essay, "The Importance of Writing Badly," Bruce Ballenger says, "Giving myself permission to write badly makes it much more likely that I will write what I don't expect to write, and that from those surprises will come some of my best writing" (Ballenger 1). It usually takes me at least a couple of rough drafts before I feel comfortable and confident in my writing. I "write badly" in rough drafts because I don't pay close attention to conventions or sentence structure. I just try to get the main ideas and the beginning of a body written down in a rough draft. Then I go back and revise the rough drafts to polish off the writing. All of those rough drafts add together to make one final, hopefully good piece of writing.