Claim/Evidence/Warrant Notes

How to properly integrate a quote in to your writings…

What is a “Claim”

* **Definition**:
  + A **claim** states your position on the issue..
* A good claim is *not obvious*. Why bother proving a point nobody could disagree with?
  + Water is wet.
  + Eating dirt is gross.
* A good claim is engaging. Consider your audience's attention span and make interesting
* A good claim is not vague (or “fuzzy”).
  + The world would be better without violence…or
  + We should all be nice to each other.

What is “Evidence”

* Definition:
  + **Evidence** is the FACT which you use to support your claim.
* Just like a lawyer uses evidence to convince a jury, you must support your claim with facts.
* Evidence can include:
  + Facts or statistics
  + Expert opinion or Personal Experience
  + Quotes from a book!

What is a “Warrant”

* Definition:
  + the **warrant** clarifies the evidence and shows HOW and WHY it supports your claim.
* A good warrant will be a reasonable interpretation of facts.
* Oh yeah…So What?!?!

**For example:**

Willie feels the pain of being beat up by the Jo Boys the next morning. “His swollen eye is matted shut and every muscle feels as if he’s been clubbed like a throw rug on a clothesline” (Crutcher 151). This quote shows the pain that Willie is feeling the morning after the fight.

Proper In-Text Citation (Review)

* + You need two things:
    1. The Author’s Last Name
    2. Page Number
* Proper Citation Example:

***“Crystal clear in his final statement that he was not going back to Montana” (Crutcher 157).***