Giving evidence

Achieving level 5

Providing evidence in your writing
Giving evidence

It is crucial that you PEE in your writing to make it as accurate as possible.
Giving evidence

But what is the evidence?

The evidence you need to use is anything from the text. If you make a point then you need to refer back to the text to show where you’re getting your ideas from and that you’re not just making them up.

Look at the text from Act 4, Scene 1. How does Claudio show his lack of trust in Hero?
Claudio

Sweet prince, you learn me noble thankfulness.
There, Leonato, take her back again.
*Give not this rotten orange to your friend;*
She’s but the sign and semblance of her honour.
Behold how like a maid she blushes here!
*O, what authority and show of truth*
Can cunning sin cover itself withal!
*Comes not that blood as modest evidence*
To witness simple virtue? Would you not swear,
All you that see her, that she were a maid,
By these exterior shows? But she is none:
She knows the heat of a luxurious bed;
Her blush is guiltiness, not modesty.

You have thirty seconds.

Finding the evidence is one thing - but how do we write it?
Giving evidence

Paraphrasing

This means taking what is said in the text and putting it into your own words. You do need to make sure that you keep the meaning the same.

Not to knit my soul to an approved wanton?

becomes

Claudio makes it clear that he will not be married to someone who has been shown not to be virtuous.
Giving evidence

Your turn ...

I talked with no man at that hour, my Lord.

Hero denies that she spoke to any man the night before.

Remember that the more information you include, the more you are showing that you understand the text.
Giving evidence

Quoting

This means taking the exact words that are used in the text. You must always use quotation marks (single speech marks). You must make sure that the sentence still makes sense.

Don Pedro refutes Hero’s statement that she ‘talked with no man’ by saying that he saw her ‘talk with a ruffian’. His words are hard to disbelieve as he was with both his brother and Claudio - 'this grieved count' - and all three saw and heard what was said.

The quotations are only short but make your point and link what you say back to the text. You do not have to include whole lines but can choose selected phrases.
Giving evidence

Your turn …

Look at Act 4, Scene 1, lines 121-123. Write a sentence which explains how Leonato shows his feelings about Hero.

‘Wherefore? Why, doth not every earthly thing Cry shame upon her? Could she here deny The story that is printed in her blood?

Leonato uses rhetorical questions to make the others think that Hero is guilty as charged and that ‘every earthly thing’ shows her shame.
Giving evidence

Long quotations

Sometimes your quotation will not fit into the sentence. This is usually true if you want to use a longer quotation.

If this is the case, you will put the quotation on a new line. Do try to avoid this as you don’t very often need to include the whole quotation.

In Act 4, Scene 1, Leonato argues against the Friar’s words of calm:

‘Friar, it cannot be,
Thou seest that all the grace that she hath left
Is that she will not add to her damnation
A sin of perjury; she not denies it.’

He argues that the Friar’s opinion can not be true and that Hero will not risk the small part of ‘grace that she hath left’ by lying about her actions. He makes it clear that this is the only reason why she does not deny their claims.
Putting it all together

You’ve now looked at various extracts from the play and used the different ways of giving evidence.

If you want to achieve a level 5 or higher in this year’s SATs, it is crucial that you remember to include quotations in your answers.