

Citing Shakespeare

If you mention the title of the play in your text, and it's clear from context what work you are referencing, you can then cite instances from the text by parenthetical formulation like this: **(IV.3.79-80)** or like this **(4.3.79-80)**. Example:

In *The Taming of the Shrew*, Kate expresses her desire to be “free/Even to the uttermost, as I please, in words,” giving the play one of its main thematic elements **(IV.3.79-80)**.

If however, you are talking about multiple works, be sure to note which play you are referencing if there would be any doubt.

Note the Following:

- Play title *italicized* (not in quotation marks)
- Lineation indicated by the use of “/” and capitalization of the first word of a line.
- Parenthetical citation uses “. ” to separate act. scene.line(s); not commas.
- Period at the *end of the full sentence*, including the citation (which is still part of the sentence).
- The comma after “words” is placed *within the quotation marks*. This is an American printing convention. In the UK, it would be outside the marks.