

Sample In-Text Citation

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new focus. The novel centers on the Compson family, a family that has “fallen to pieces,” and is “long in decline from its genteel Southern eminence, wrecked by scandal, drink, and madness” (Matz 28-29). Such a family would definitely not be considered respected or prominent in society, and yet, Faulkner chooses to focus on this family, even allowing the main portion of the narration to be carried by three brothers who take the reader “into psychic worlds of mental retardation, suicidal depression, and vengeful mania” (29). In choosing to have the story narrated through the eyes of the Compson brothers, Faulkner takes the reader into the mires of Compson family living, of gossip, dysfunctional relationships, and family disgraces. He provides the reader an inside view of life outside the spotlight of societal prestige and influence, and in doing so, brings a sense of true realism that is characteristic of the modern novel.

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Works Cited

- Faulkner, William. The Sound and the Fury. Ed. David Minter. New York: Norton, 1994.
- Kershner, R. B. The Twentieth-Century Novel: An Introduction. Boston: Bedford Books, 1997.
- Matz, Jesse. The Modern Novel. Malden, Massachusetts: Blackwell Publishing, Ltd., 2004.

Note: These examples show the use of underlines for book titles as used to be the norm; many formats now prefer the use of italics for book titles instead.

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