Citing Sources Directly:
Using Quotation Marks and Parenthetical Citations

When should I use quotation marks?

Use quotation marks around source material that has been taken directly from a text. Quotation marks indicate that the material is not yours and that it came from another source. Both quoted and paraphrased material require citations.

Using Parenthetical Citations:

This is the author of the source. If there isn't an author, cite the title of the work.

This is the page number where the material can be found in the original text. Do not use a comma to separate the author from the page number.

…the answer is simple: "self-esteem" (Crawford 43).

Unless the direct quotation is a question or ends with an exclamation point, no punctuation is needed inside the quotation.

Notice that the period comes after the parenthetical reference. Usually, parenthetical references are followed by periods.

Using Parenthetical References with Source Information:

According to Crawford, the answer is simple: "self-esteem" (43).

Source information: author's name.

Notice that you don't need to include the author of the source in the parenthetical when the author is mentioned in the sentence.

If you use more than one source by the same author, the parenthetical reference should include the author's name, the title of the work, and the page number.

Example: (Crawford, title of source 72). Using source information will simplify a lot of this work.

Please refer to a composition handbook for further guidance.