



## The Writing Center

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA  
DAVIS

### Using Quotation Marks Correctly

#### A. Quotation marks and punctuation always precede the quotation mark.

- 1. John says that he and his wife will visit the state of Hawaii. This is an interesting and very important statement.
- 2. In your opinion, I understand why he says that.
- 3. Although we may disagree about what she is saying.
- 4. He says that he is going to Hawaii this summer.

#### B. Quotation marks are used to quote others. The comma comes after the quotation mark and precedes the punctuation.

- 1. The dean would not be able to attend because he is going to work with his secretary. The student mentioned his name when asked for the name of the dean.
- 2. In the lecture on the history of the state of California, the dean said that he is going to visit the state of California in the future.

#### C. Quotation marks are used to quote others. The comma comes after the quotation mark and precedes the punctuation.

- 1. In your opinion, I understand why he says that. This is an interesting and very important statement.
- 2. In the lecture on the history of the state of California, the dean said that he is going to visit the state of California in the future.
- 3. He says that he is going to Hawaii this summer. This is an interesting and very important statement.