Example of quote analysis and its significance to the goals of the author:

What are the roles of the author, narrator, and speaker as they apply to each quote? What is the function of the quote as theme-supporting, or for the development of character, or as a display of irony, sarcasm, or wit?

“Will you give me leave to defer your raptures till I write again? At present I have no room to do them justice.”

Darcy is sarcastic in his response to Miss Bingley’s continued, and annoying, requests to include herself in his personal letter to her sister. This quote not only characterizes the obsequious nature of Miss Bingley’s yearning for attention from Mr. Darcy, but also the deference Mr. Darcy has to her wishes, and her being. However, as the narrator has characterized Elizabeth’s opinion of Mr. Darcy as arrogant and rude, as this quote would seem to suggest, it could also reveal a more compassionate nature in Mr. Darcy as one who does not want to create offense towards Miss Bingley. The narrator, with significant association with the attitude of Elizabeth, may perhaps be prejudiced toward Mr. Darcy at this point in the novel. In essence, the pitfalls of prejudice, and the reflection of this prejudice on the social structure of the time, may fall upon not only the characters, but the narrator as well.