Partner Exercise

Following are pairs of sentences. One is a statement, and the other source material to integrate as a quote. Use the source material as a quote in the main sentence. Try to use *extracts* from the sentences as well as the whole sentence. (The first is done as an example.) *Note: the source materials are made up!*

1. The state of the economy is desperate.
   “Millions of jobs are being lost every day - we’re in real pain here.”
   (Bob Snob, a banker, from page 23)
   **SOLUTION:**
   The state of the economy is desperate, one of “real pain,” (23) according to banker Bob Snob.

2. The economy is looking much brighter.
   “Millions of new jobs are emerging. Things are really on the upswing.”
   (Frank Rank, a cab driver, from page 35)

3. It is more important than every for Americans to forge a common identity.
   “We need an identity that binds us together.”
   (Frank Hairpiece, a prominent scholar, from page 24)

4. Animal rights represent the next stage in human moral development.
   “If we don’t change our ways, future generations will judge us harshly. We need to achieve a higher state of consciousness and empathy.”
   (Yoshi Om, a philosopher, from page 11)
Class Exercise

Structure these sentences to integrate the quotations more elegantly. You can change the way the quote is introduced, embed it into the main sentence, use a better signal word, remove some of the quote - whatever works, and keeps the focus.

1. Violent movies are popular for all kinds of surprising reasons. It’s well known that they appeal mostly to teenagers. Holman Jenkins writes a column for the Wall Street Journal. He states that, “teenagers swarm to horror flicks so the boys can demonstrate their manly unflappability and girls can demonstrate their vulnerable desirability. Boys and girls who fulfill these roles are rated as more sexually desirable than their peers.” So perhaps horror films do not cater to a taste for violence, but rather to the desire to show off before the opposite sex.

2. Sociologists argue a lot about whether or not violent television creates more violence in society. But maybe this strict cause-and-effect misses the point. “If sex and violence-drenched entertainment can desensitize me, it can desensitize anyone. It can desensitize a whole society. It can drag us down to the point where nothing is revolting. Where nothing makes us blush. And what happens to an unblushing society? Why, everything. Central Park joggers get raped and beaten into comas. Sixth-graders sleep around. Los Angeles rioters burn down their neighborhoods and murder dozens of their neighbors. The Menendez boys blow off their parents’ heads.” Jeff Jacoby wrote this in the Boston Globe. The point is that by overcoming our inhibitions, we lose an important protection against some of the terrible things that people are capable of.