Basic paragraph, no external insights

The next few years had me casting about for just the right sort of writing. I considered becoming a journalist. But there were too many reminders, in the instruction, that writing is merely a tool for journalists. My love of language felt out of place.

Our task: get (1) into the above paragraph

(1)“Newspaper reporters and technical writers are trained to reveal almost nothing about themselves in their writings. This makes them freaks in the world of writers [...]”

(Kurt Vonnegut. 1997. ‘How to write with style’. In Paul Escholz; Alfred Rosa; and Virginia Clark, eds., Language Awareness, 8th ed. New York: St Martin’s Press. (p. 150).)

Options for how to do this include direct quotation (in whole or in part) and a paraphrase along with a reference.

Attempt 1: Just stick it on (not so good)

The next few years had me casting about for just the right sort of writing. I considered becoming a journalist. But there were too many reminders, in the instruction, that writing is merely a tool for journalists. My love of language felt out of place. “Newspaper reporters and technical writers are trained to reveal almost nothing about themselves in their writings.
This makes them freaks in the world of writers […]” (Kurt Vonnegut, ‘How to write with style’, p. 150.)

**Attempt 2: Textually integrated, but why is the quote here? (improving)**

The next few years had me casting about for just the right sort of writing. I considered becoming a journalist. But there were too many reminders, in the instruction, that writing is merely a tool for journalists. My love of language felt out of place. In ‘How to write with style’, Kurt Vonnegut writes, “Newspaper reporters and technical writers are trained to reveal almost nothing about themselves in their writings” (p. 150). This seems to get at the reason I felt out of place as a journalist. Vonnegut continues, “This makes them freaks in the world of writers” (p. 150).

**Attempt 3: Unified both textually and substantively**

The next few years had me casting about for just the right sort of writing. I considered becoming a journalist. But there were too many reminders, in the instruction, that writing is merely a tool for journalists. In ‘How to write with style’, Kurt Vonnegut calls journalists “freaks in the world of writers” (p. 150). My sense is that this is because they inhabit the world of writers only by accident. It happens that people communicate complex ideas in language. One can imagine better systems, systems that would not reveal as much about their users as written language does. But such systems aren’t available to humans in this age. Thus, reporters expend much energy attempting “to reveal almost nothing about themselves in their writings” (Vonnegut, p. 150). In this setting, my love of language was not welcome. The clear mismatch signaled to me that I should look elsewhere.