

# INTEGRATING SOURCES INTO YOUR WRITING

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Using MLA Style

# Integrating Sources: What and Why

- *Integrating sources* means you put ideas from outside sources together with your own ideas.
- Sources help develop and support your own writing (your main ideas, purpose, claims). **They do not replace your own ideas.**
- Sources strengthen your writing because they:
  - Provide background information and context
  - Explain important terms and concepts
  - Support your claims
  - Add credibility to your writing
  - Address other viewpoints

# Ways to use sources:

1. Quotations: A direct passage from a source
2. Summary: Condenses, captures only main points, and re-expresses main ideas in new language. Much shorter than original passage
1. Paraphrase: Explaining the source material point by point in your own words. May be longer than the original passage.

Always CITE your sources (explain where the quote came from— we will use MLA format)

# Why Summarize?

- To shorten a long quote
- To make the source fit better into the structure of your writing
- To clarify the meaning of something complex

# How to summarize

- Figure out what the main idea is and put into your own words.
- Leave out your own opinions. Stick to what the source says. Be objective.
- Use no more than 3-4 consecutive words from the source.

# Summary examples:

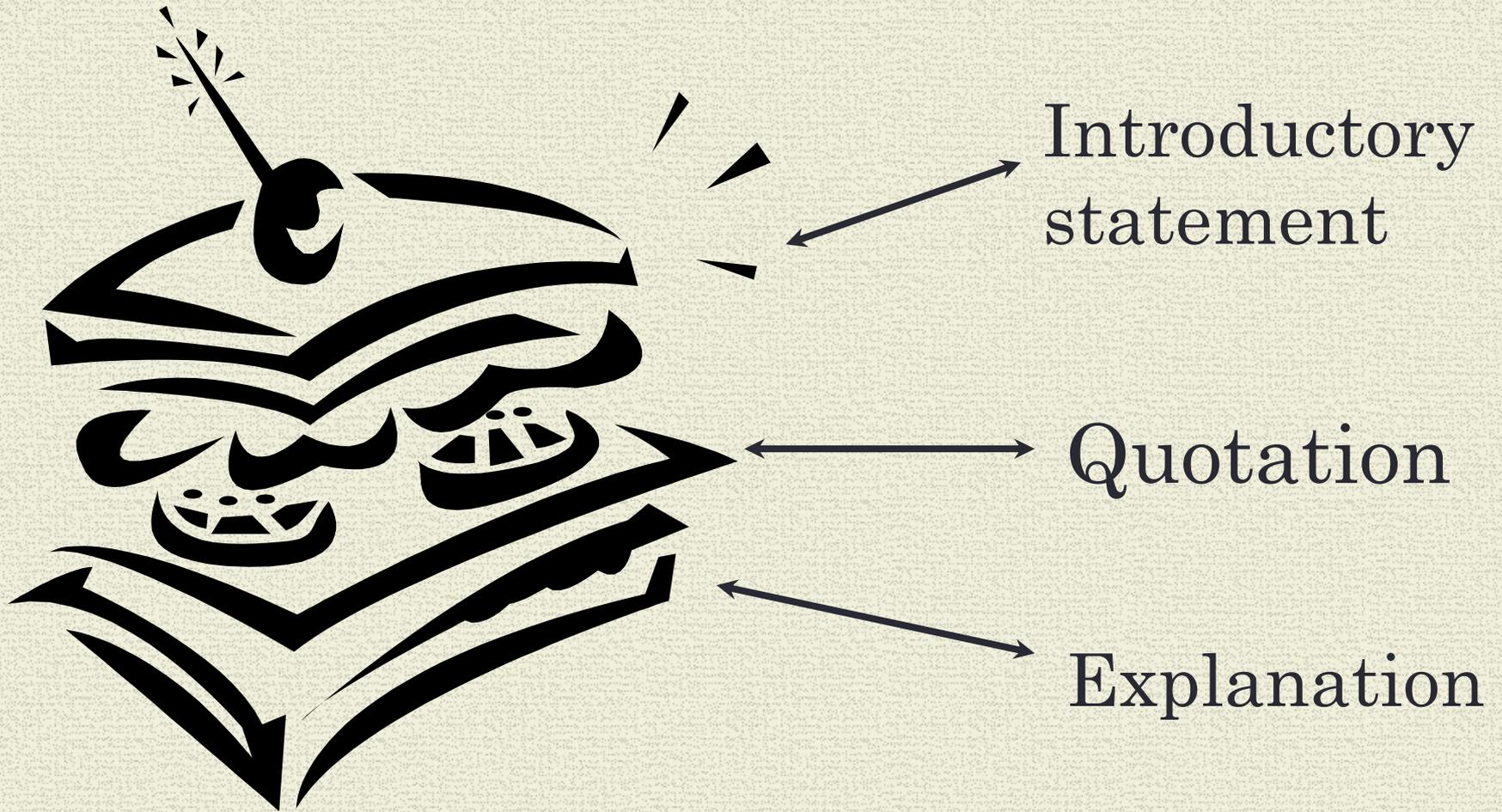
*“...whoever you are, or whatever it is that you do, when you really want something, it's because that desire originated in the soul of the universe. It's your mission on earth.” Melchizek to Santiago in The Alchemist, by Paulo Coelho*

*Summary: According to the Alchemist, our deepest desires come from God.*

# Why Use Quotations?

- To capture phrases or sentences that are particularly expressive, powerful, or informative.
- To accurately explain technical terms and concepts.
- To add credibility to your writing.
- To distance your ideas from the ideas of the source author with a different viewpoint.

# QUOTATION SANDWICH



# Sample Sandwich Quotation

- In his landmark “I have a Dream” speech, Reverend Martin Luther King explained his hopes that his own children “... will not be judged by the color of their skin but by the content of their character.” In other words, he wanted to fight for racial equality in America so that all people would be treated equal regardless of race.

# Introduce the Quotation

- Introduce the quotation, paraphrase or summary by providing background information about the quote:
  - Name of the Book
  - Author's name
  - Relevant Context: what was happening, when, where, how, why
  - Speaker of the quote

# Signal words besides “said”

- acknowledges
- agrees
- argues
- asks
- asserted
- believes
- claims
- compares
- concludes
- declares
- describes
- disagrees
- discusses
- emphasizes
- explains
- found
- illustrates
- indicated
- notes
- observes
- refutes
- remarks
- reports
- responds
- reveals
- shows
- stated
- suggests
- thinks
- writes
- warns

# Introduce the Quotation—Examples

- **According** to Thomas Jefferson, “....”
- Chairman Mao often **stated** that “...”
- In *The Alchemist*, the Crystal Merchant who helped Santiago **observed**: “...”
- In a 2014 study about dolphins by Beijing University, lead scientist Dr. Chan **discovered that** “...”
- Mr. Smith gave the following **analysis** of the Microsoft company’s current financial situation: “...”

# Explain the Quotation

- Explain the quotation in order to:
  - Analyze the quotation in light of your thesis
  - Explain what you think the quotation means
  - Tell the reader the quote it is important
  - Connect the quote to your thesis

# Explain the Quotation—Examples

- Basically, the author was explaining that .....
- In other words, Martin Luther King believed ....
- In making this statement, Dr. Smith was contrasting.....
- It is evident that the writer .....

# Omitting Material from a Quotation

- Shorten long quotes by removing extra information, use **ellipsis points (...)** to indicate omitted text.
- Ellipsis is not needed at the beginning or end of a quotation.
- **Example**
  - **Original Source:** “Your work is going to fill a large part of your life, and the only way to be truly satisfied is to do what you believe is great work. And the only way to do great work is to love what you do. If you haven't found it yet, keep looking. Don't settle. As with all matters of the heart, you'll know when you find it.” -Steve Jobs
  - **Quotation:** “Your work is going to fill a larger part of your life, and the only way to be ... satisfied is... to do great work... to love what you do.”

# Block Quotations

- If a quotation is longer than four lines, it must be indented from the left margin by ½ an inch.

In his famous speech, Martin Luther king gave an impassioned plea for the future of his own children,

“I have a dream that one day my four little children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the color of their skin but by the content of their character.”

# Adding to a Quotation

- If additional words are needed to make a quotation clear, add those words in brackets, [ ].
- **Original Source:** Many vegetarians are health conscious. They exercise regularly, maintain a desirable body weight, and abstain from smoking.
- **Quotation:** According to the American Council on Science and Health (2009), “They [many vegetarians] exercise regularly, maintain a desirable body weight, and abstain from smoking” (p. 12).

# Why Paraphrase?

- To include more specific and detailed information than a summary, yet can be more general and widespread than a quotation.
- To add variety and avoid overusing quotations.
- To show your reader that you understand the source.

# Paraphrasing without Plagiarism

- Acceptable paraphrases convey the meaning of the source, but use your own words and sentence structure. To avoid plagiarism, make sure your paraphrase does not:
  - Create sentences by piecing together the source's phrases with your own phrases
  - Plug in different words (synonyms) into the source's sentence structure
  - Use more than 3-4 consecutive words from the source.

# Acceptable Paraphrases

- *Original:* Depression affects 22 percent of Americans aged eighteen and older (one in five adults) every year, making it one of the most common medical conditions in the United States. It affects young and old, and is twice as common in women as in men.

Two paraphrases: Which is acceptable?

- According to Balch (2006), over one-fifth of the adult American population suffers from depression. In terms of at-risk populations, gender appears to be a more significant factor than age; in fact, women are twice as likely to suffer from depression as men.
- According to Balch (2006), depression impacts 22 percent of Americans (aged 18+) annually, making it one of the most widespread medical problems in America. The disease reaches people of every age, and is two times as common in women as in men.

# Acceptable Paraphrases

- *Original:* Nutritional deficiencies resulting from malabsorption may weaken the immune system, in turn prolonging the time required for the inflammation and ulcers to heal.
- Two paraphrases: Which is acceptable?
  - Deficiencies in nutrition caused by malabsorption may make the immune system weaker, which makes the required time longer for the inflammation and ulcers to heal (Balch, 2006).
  - Stomach problems such as inflammation and ulcers may have difficulty healing when the stomach is unable to absorb nutrients properly (Balch, 2006).

# Try it out!

- Read this passage. Then try to paraphrase it without looking at it. Write what it means using your own words and sentences.
  - Foods greatly influence the brain's behavior. A poor diet, especially one with a lot of junk foods, is a common cause of depression. The levels of certain brain chemicals are controlled by what we eat. These brain chemicals are closely linked to mood.

# Try it out!

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  - Foods greatly influence the brain's behavior. A poor diet, especially one with a lot of junk foods, is a common cause of depression. The levels of certain brain chemicals are controlled by what we eat. These brain chemicals are closely linked to mood.

## Acceptable Paraphrase:

- A healthy diet is important for mental health. Because our food controls our brain chemicals and our mood, poor eating habits can lead to depression.



# Works Cited Page

- A Works Cited Page is a separate page or set of pages at the end of a document containing an alphabetical listing of all of the sources used within the paper.
- Each citation included in the page is formatted according to MLA or APA standards.



# Citing in MLA Format

Follow this simple equation to cite your quote in MLA format.

Open and close the quote with quotation marks.

Introduce your quote “ quote ” (citation).

Always introduce your quote. Never start a sentence with a quote.

Set the citation apart with parenthesis.

The period goes after the citation

# Citing in MLA Format

Introduce your quote “quote” (citation).

This citation will be the first entry  from the Works Cited Page.

If you include the Author's last name in the quote introduction, you only need to include the page number. If not, you include the author's last name and the page number.

# How to Cite Web Sources

## Entire Web site

Author's or Editor's last name, first name [if given]. *Title of Web site*. Name of sponsoring institution or organization [if given]. Last update or original publication date. **Web**. Date accessed.

# How to Cite Web Sources

## Article from a Web site

Author's or Editor's last name, first name  
[if given]. "Title of Article." *Title of Web  
site*. Date of last update or original  
publication date. **Web**. **Date accessed**.

# How to Cite Web Sources

## Online Database Article

Author's or Editor's last name, first name  
[if given]. "Article Title." *Database  
Title*. Copyright date [edition]. Online  
Publisher or sponsoring institution. Web.  
Date accessed.

# How to Cite Print Sources

## Encyclopedia

Author's last name, first name. [if available] “Article Title.” *Title of Encyclopedia*. Year Published. Print.

# How to Cite Print Sources

## Book with an Editor

Editor's last name, first name, ed. *Title of Book*. City of publication: Publisher, Date published. **Print.**

# How to Cite Print Sources

## Book with one Author

Last name, first name. *Title of Book*. City of publication: Publisher, Date published.  
Print.

# In-Text Citations

- An in-text citation is a citation in the text of your writing to let your readers immediately know where you got your source
- \*Your parenthetical citation will be the first part of the entry from the Works Cited page
- \*The period goes outside of the parenthesis.

# MLA Citations

## In-text (parenthetical) Citation

Columbia University Professor Jeffrey Johnson spent seventeen years recording the viewing habits of children in 707 families in Upstate New York and found that the ones “who watched one to three hours of television each day . . . were 60% more likely to be involved in assaults and fights as those who watched less TV” (“Research on the Effects of Media Violence”).

## Works Cited Entry

### Works Cited

“Research on the Effects of Media Violence.” *Media Awareness Network*.

2005. Web. 12 Mar. 2005

# Works Cited Entry for a Book

## In-text Citation

The ideal context for identity formation is “a supportive and respectful family” (Levine 169).



## Works Cited Entry

### Works Cited

Levine, Madeleine, Ph.D. *See No Evil: A Guide to Protecting Our Children from Media Violence*. San Francisco: Jossey-Bass, 1998. Print.