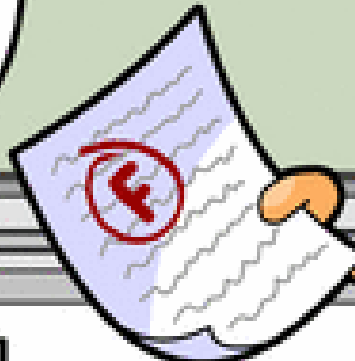


Pirillo
& Fitz

Whaddya mean all my facts are wrong?!?

I copied everything straight off the internet!!



The Writing Center 

Incorporating Research and Citing Sources

with the **AMA** Style Manual

Why do we cite our outside sources?

- To establish credibility and persuade others to take our words seriously
- To give credit where credit is due
- To allow readers to find the sources themselves

In-Text Citations & Reference List Entries

Regardless of the style manual, these work together to provide complete documentation.

- **Brief** in-text notation for paraphrases, summaries, and/or quotations allows your reader to find...
- **Detailed** documentation in a list of sources at the end of the text

Let's take a look at how this works...


AMA Citations in Action

A superscript appears in the body of the paper.



The researchers determined that an aortic cannula with a straight tip—as distinct from either a moderately curved or sharp-angle curved cannula—reduced the risk of cerebral embolism.¹

References

1. Avrahami I, Dilmoney B, Azuri A, et al. Investigation of risks for cerebral embolism associated with the hemodynamics of cardiopulmonary bypass cannula: a numerical model. *Artif Organs*. 2013;37(10):857-65. doi: 10.1111/aor.12094
- 

Full bibliographic information appears at the end of the paper.

Formatting in-text citations

In the body of the paper . . .

- Cite each source in numerical order.
- Use superscript Arabic numerals (1, 2, 3 ...).
- Place them *outside* commas & periods and *inside* semicolons & colons.
- Put a comma—and *no* spaces—between the numbers for multiple citations.
- Join a closed series with a hyphen.
- Each source keeps the numeral first assigned to it.

Examples:

While the Liu group observed a consistently strong response,³ the Yale researchers found a consistent but only moderate response⁷; other studies had more equivocal results.^{4-6,8}

WAIT! The superscripts skipped from 3 to 7!
What's going on here?

Formatting the AMA references list

Journal article, online, no doi:

1. Duchin JS. Can preparedness for biological terrorism save us from pertussis? *Arch Pediatr Adolesc Med*. 2014;158(2):106-107. <http://archpedi.ama-assn.org/cgi/content/full/158/2/106>. Accessed June 1, 2016.

UpToDate article:

2. Aranki S, Aroesty JM, Suri RM. Early noncardiac complications of coronary artery bypass graft surgery. *UpToDate*. www.uptodate.com.ez-proxy.methodist.edu:2058/. Updated May 31, 2016. Accessed June 1, 2016.

Article on website, no author:

3. What is sound? American Association for the Advancement of Science website. <http://www.aaas.org/news/what-sound-flame-challenge-winners-have-answers>. Published June 7, 2016. Accessed June 16, 2016.

Book:

4. Galanter M, ed. *Services Research in the Era of Managed Care*. New York, NY: Kluwer Academic/Plenum; 2001.

Remember!

Include in-text citations for **all** material drawn from outside sources.

We cite to the outside source no matter how the material is incorporated into our text:

- Paraphrases
- Summaries
- Direct Quotations

Paraphrase

A paraphrase is a passage that has been entirely rewritten in our own words. Although a paraphrase consists entirely of our own words, the information or idea contained in it is not ours and therefore must be cited.

Why paraphrase?

- A paraphrase can condense several sentences, or even pages, of writing into something more succinct.
- To paraphrase, we have to master the material. Mastery of the material enables us to choose the level of detail and the phrasing that best suit our purposes.

What makes a good paraphrase?

- Avoid the exact phrases of the original text to the extent possible.
- Also avoid the sentence pattern of the original. Don't just substitute some words from the thesaurus.

Example:

- Quotation from *UpToDate*: “In a study of 40 consecutive patients undergoing CABG who were randomly assigned to either MECC [mini-extracorporeal circulation] or standard CPB, the former was shown to be a safe alternative.”¹⁰
- Paraphrase: In one study, researchers randomly assigned 40 patients scheduled for CABG to either MECC or standard CPB, and determined MECC to be a safe option.²¹



Watch out! Always go find the original source and cite to the original.

Summary

A summary takes the main points of a source (and only the main points) and rewrites them entirely in our own words. Summaries tend to be much shorter than the original source.

Why summarize?

A summary gives a short overview of the source material and compresses a lot of text into a few words.

Direct Quotations

A direct quotation uses the exact words of the original source, and thus is a very narrow (but very accurate) section of the source.

Why quote?

- In science writing, as a rule, we do not quote!
- As a more general rule, save quotations for language that is distinctive, that stands out in some way. Never quote when the text is just stating some information or an opinion in plain language. Instead, paraphrase or summarize.
- Enclose a quotation in quotation marks if it is no more than four lines. A quotation longer than four lines must be set off in a block (i.e., left-indented) and does not take quotation marks.

Incorporating Sources

To seamlessly incorporate paraphrases, summaries, and quotations into our writing, we

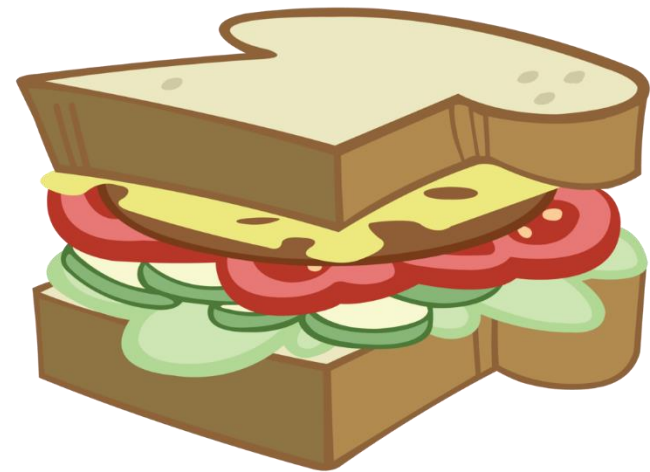
- 1. Introduce**
- 2. State content & cite**
- 3. Analyze or explain**

The Outside Source Sandwich

1. Introduce the source.

2. State the content and cite it.

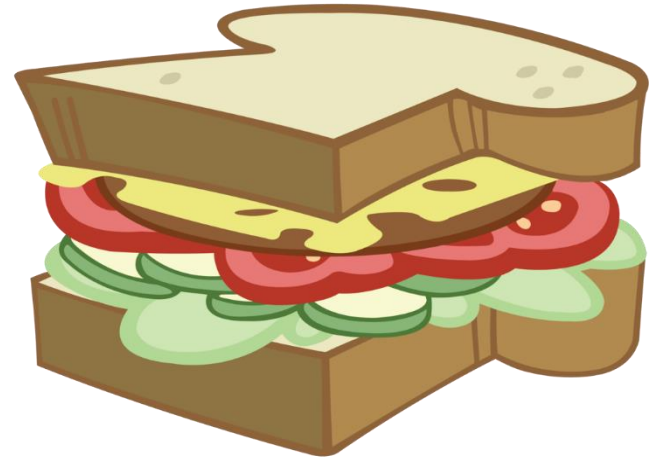
3. Analyze the content or state the relevance.



1. Introduce the outside source.

2. State the content and cite it.

3. Analyze the content or state the relevance.



- In science writing, we often don't explicitly introduce our sources in our text.
- However, if we want to rely on a single source for a multi-sentence discussion—e.g., when presenting a key study or describing a shared basis of knowledge, perhaps drawn from a textbook—it's a good practice to use a “signal phrase” to introduce the source material.

A signal phrase begins the task of giving credit to our source by signaling that the connected text is drawn not from our own knowledge but from the source.

Signal phrases can

- Include background information, context, title of the source, or even authors' affiliation/credentials
- Even give the authors' names

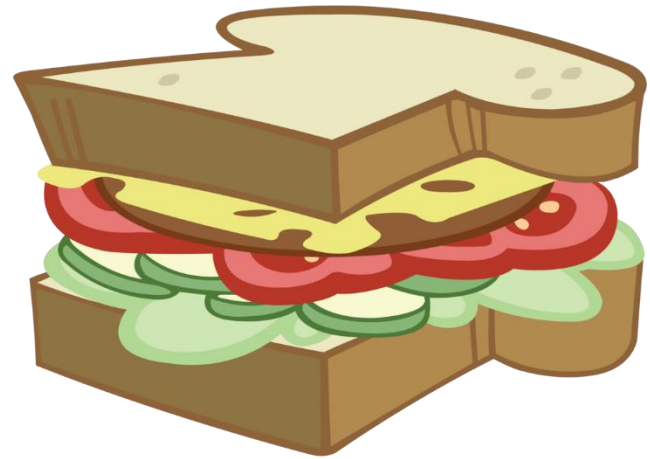
Here's an example:

While off-pump coronary artery bypass graft surgery (OP CABG) is considered less invasive, **the authors of the *UpToDate* article on noncardiac complications of CABG maintain that** study data conflict on whether OP CABG improves clinical outcomes.¹³

1. Introduce the outside source.

2. State the content and cite it.

3. Analyze the content or state the relevance.

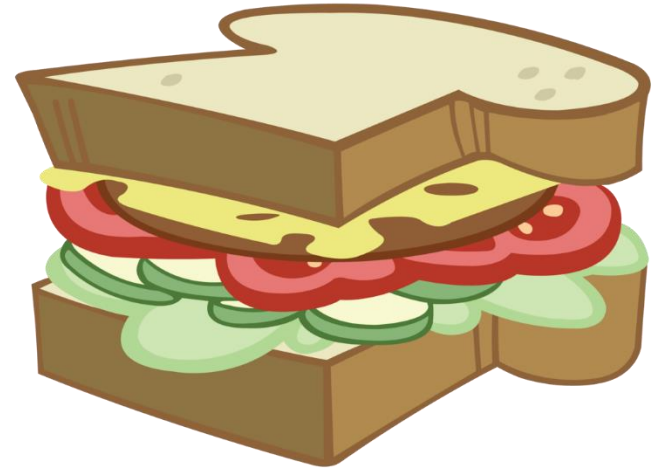


- **Use your own words** to write a paraphrase or summary of the source material. Write a quotation using the author's exact words. But remember! It's unlikely you'll be quoting.
- Include the **superscript numeral** for this particular source.
- In a multi-sentence discussion drawing on a single source, if you've acknowledged the source in your discussion, give the superscript only after the first and final sentences, i.e., "**bracket**" the discussion with citations.
- When in doubt, CITE!

1. Introduce the outside source.

2. State the content & cite it.

3. Analyze the content or state the relevance.



We don't want to make the reader guess why we've included the material. We **analyze** the material by responding to it or interpreting it within a wider context.

- *How does it reflect or impact the larger point that we are writing about here?*

Or we **explain** why we've included it.

- *Why or how does this material support our thesis?*

To Sum It All Up



Collect ideas and information from outside sources.



Critically evaluate, then organize this material.



Integrate outside source material smoothly, introducing the source (if warranted) and explaining the relevance of the material.



Document every use of an outside source by citing correctly.



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