

# INTEGRATING SOURCES

ENGL 1302

# Taking Notes on Sources

- Write down everything that might be useful later—remember to include author and title
- Write down page numbers and double-check facts and spellings
- Think about why you chose to write down a particular idea—write a commentary on it
- Differentiate your ideas/words from those of your source!
- Use quotation marks for direct quotations!

# Integrating Sources

The source is an article, “The Temper of the 1920s” by Frederick J. Hoffman.

- In “The Temper of the 1920s,” literary historian Fredrick J. Hoffman argues that the young American writers of the 1920s rejected the values and conventions of America’s literary tradition, pointed to World War I as a sign that Western civilization had failed them, and turned to art as the source of meaning.

# Definitions

- Summary—gives main idea, types of evidence, supporting points. Short, not exhaustive, a succinct overview, often much shorter than original
- Paraphrase—puts the information into new words. About the same length as original, possibly longer or shorter
- Quotation—records exact wording and punctuation of source and enclosed in quotation marks

# When to Use a Summary

- Get across main ideas from source
- Take a long passage and focus on main points to provide background or general support for your point
- Remember to cite source!

# When to Use a Paraphrase



- ❑ To clarify meaning of obscure or ambiguous term or idea
- ❑ Get across significant details author has described
- ❑ When source's language is not especially arresting or memorable
- ❑ Useful to make sure you “get” the original

# When to Use a Quotation

- ❑ Author's words are especially vivid or expressive
- ❑ Exact wording needed for technical accuracy
- ❑ Words of reliable authority would lend support
- ❑ Highlight an opinion
- ❑ Language of source is topic of discussion
- ❑ If you make a change, you need to indicate it
- ❑ May combine paraphrase with one special or technical term quoted

# Benefits of Summary and Paraphrase over Quotations

- Keep quotations as short as possible—use sparingly for greatest effect
- Summaries and Paraphrases are in your own words; they fit better into your prose style
- Paraphrase is easier to integrate into your essay than quotation



# Avoiding Plagiarism

Document everything you learn from a source, including ideas and language

- If you express the ideas of others in your own words, still need complete, correct documentation
- Exception: extremely common knowledge
  - ▣ The fact that something is repeated verbatim on several internet sites does not make it common knowledge—it may mean they are plagiarizing from another source

# Paraphrasing Do's and Don'ts

## Don't

- ❑ change a few words here and there
- ❑ omit a few sentences or scramble their order
- ❑ use same sentence patterns or vocabulary
- ❑ strain to find substitutes for words that are essential to the meaning of a passage

## Do:

- ❑ Introduce your own comments or reflections, just be sure to indicate that these are not those of the source
- ❑ Reproduce the original's emphasis and details
- ❑ Indicate the page numbers of the original source as well as author's name
- ❑ Use a dictionary if any words in the original are not completely familiar to you
- ❑ Work with whole ideas—break complex sentences down into several simpler ones of your own

# Incorrect and Correct Paraphrase

From “Causes of Prejudice” by Vincent Parrillo on page 577:

“Prejudice is a complex phenomenon, and it is most likely the product of more than one causal agent.”

- ❑ Incorrect paraphrase: Vincent Parrillo claims that prejudice is a complex phenomenon, and it is most likely the product of more than one causal agent (577).
- ❑ Incorrect paraphrase: Vincent Parillo claims that prejudice is a complicated phenomenon; it is usually produced by more than one cause (577).
- ❑ Incorrect paraphrase: One cannot reduce prejudice to a simple explanation because multiple causes often create it.
- ❑ Example of correct paraphrase: According to Vincent Parrillo, one cannot reduce prejudice to a simple explanation because multiple causes often create it (577).

# Practice Paraphrase

From Edward Said's *States*:

“All cultures spin out a dialectic of self and other, the subject ‘I’ who is native, authentic, at home, and the object ‘it’ or ‘you,’ who is foreign, perhaps threatening, different, out there. From this dialectic comes the series of heroes and monsters, founding fathers and barbarians, prized masterpieces and despised opponents that express a culture from its deepest sense of national self-identity to its refined patriotism, and finally to its coarse jingoism, xenophobia, and exclusivist bias” (596).

# How to Integrate Quotations: Provide Interpretations

- Be wary of the assumption that a quotation is self-sufficient or its meaning self-evident
- Every time you put a quotation in your paper, take time to comment on it to demonstrate why you chose it

# How to Integrate Quotations: Signal Phrases

Signal Phrase tells reader a bit about the quotation

- Author's or organization's name and verb that reveals something about the author's position
  - ▣ Robert Pearson acknowledges, advises, affirms, advocates, believes, charges, claims, concludes, concurs, contends, criticizes, denies, discusses, emphasizes, interprets, objects, offers, observes, responds, reports (etc.)
  - ▣ Can precede quotation, interrupt it, or follow it

# Integrating Quotations: Grammatical Flow

Integrate the quotation into the grammatical flow of your sentence by varying the signal phrase

- Reynolds makes a strong case that Poe was influenced by the popular press: “Poe frequently included in his tales phenomena recently reported on by the daily papers” (399).
- Reynolds further explains that he “frequently included in his tales phenomena recently reported on by the daily papers” (399).
- According to Reynolds, “Poe frequently included in his tales phenomena recently reported on by the daily papers” (399).

# Rules for Quotations

- Quote fairly and accurately; don't distort the meaning of the original
- When quoting up to 4 lines of prose or 3 lines of poetry, integrate the quotations directly into your paragraph; enclose the quoted material in double quotation marks
- Block Quotations—omit quotation marks, start a new line and indent twice the amount as you would to start a new paragraph (10 spaces or 1 inch) on the left margin only, no extra spaces before or after quotation. Page number appears after period at end of block quotation.
- Block quotations should be rare



# Block Quotation

Margaret Bledsoe disagrees:

From all that we know of “enlightened self-interest,” the best chance that humans will begin to act differently from their habitual response is if they are provided a clear model for change, one that answers their most pressing questions concerning the needs of their everyday lives. Utopian images will simply confuse them. (73)

# Changing Quotations

- If the source has a grammatical or spelling error, reproduce it exactly, but indicate it is not your error with sic in square brackets:
  - ▣ Berring claims that the class struggle “represents the zeitgiest [sic] of the 19<sup>th</sup> century” (223).
- To change words, enclose the alteration in square brackets:
  - ▣ “Much of Pearl’s research involved reading newspaper articles written at the time of [Poe’s] death” (Carson 99).
- To change from lowercase to uppercase, use square brackets

# Deletions from Quotations

- To delete words, indicate deletion with an ellipsis (three spaced periods): Standish is also correct that the French Revolution “left in its wake . . . years of uncertainty about the nature of democracy in France” (78).
- When an omission comes at the end of the sentence and what is quoted can stand as a complete sentence, use an unspaced period followed by an ellipsis: According to Jane Hendricks, “The plight of the freedman in the South also angered the abolitionists. . . .” (2).
- When you drop a whole sentence, you also use an unspaced period followed by an ellipsis: Marcus Jacque finds fault with this explanation: “The notion that truth is relative does not open up a Pandora’s box of moral confusion. . . . On the contrary, the mania for absolute truth is more likely to lead to violence” (151-52).

# Quotation in a Quotation

If there is a quotation within a quotation, use single quotation marks:

- “The last two and a half centuries have seen the rise, apogee, and decline of a family structure based on a ‘male bread-winner norm’” (Seccombe qtd. in Hanagan 1136).
- Generally speaking cite source of quotation within a quotation in the signal phrase.