Integrating Sources (Synthesizing)



This resource provides examples of different ways you could integrate information from the same source. All examples come from the same source and sample excerpt.

Source

Heilbroner, R. (2005). Don't let stereotypes warp your judgment. In K. Flachmann & M. Flachmann (Eds.), *The prose reader: Essays for thinking, reading, and writing* (pp. 525–528). Upper Saddle River, NJ: Prentice Hall.

Sample Excerpt (From page 526)

We not only grow up with standardized pictures forming inside of us, but as grown-ups we are constantly having them thrust upon us. Some of them, like the half-joking, half-serious stereotypes of mothers-in-law, or country yokels, or psychiatrists, are dinned into us by the stock jokes we hear and repeat. In fact, without such stereotypes, there would be a lot fewer jokes. Still other stereotypes are perpetuated by the advertisements we read, the movies we see, the books we read.

Summary

When to use it: Sometimes, in order to condense a larger piece of writing into a single sentence or paragraph.

Example: The author stated that individuals form stereotypes based on the jokes they hear and the media they watch (Heilbroner, 2005).

Paraphrase

When to use it: Frequently, when you want to want to restate specific points the author's meaning in your own words.

Example: Our views of mothers-in-law, country yokels, or psychiatrists are shaped by the jokes we hear about them (Heilbroner, 2005).

Direct Quotation

When to use it: Rarely, only when the *specific wording* is the focus of paper rather than statistics, findings, general point from the source. When quoting something directly, you must use quotation marks and it must be verbatim. However, if you do want to make any changes to the quote, use ellipses ... to indicate removed text and [square brackets] to indicated added text, both of which are acceptable as long as the meaning doesn't change.

Example: Heilbroner (2005) argued, "without such stereotypes, there would be a lot fewer jokes" (p. 526).

Block Quotation

When to use it: Very rarely, when the direct quote is more than 40 words. Be sure to introduce/attribute the quote and then begin the quote on its own line indented a half inch.

Example:

Heilbroner (2005) claimed,

Some of them, like the half-joking, half-serious stereotypes of mothers-in-law, or country yokels, or psychiatrists, are dinned into us by the stock jokes we hear and repeat....Still other stereotypes are perpetuated by the advertisements we read, the movies we see, the books we read. (p. 526)

As this quote shows, stereotypes can spread throughout society in a variety of ways.

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