**UWF WRITING LAB**

**INTRODUCTORY VERBS FOR QUOTATIONS**

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When you’re incorporating quoted material into your text from another source, try to get away from the stereotyped verbs *says, writes, thinks,* or *feels*.

The citation leading up to a quotation represents an important link between your thoughts and those of your source.  The *introductory verb* can tell your reader something about your reasons for presenting the quotation and its context  in the work that you’re taking it from.  Try these verbs below to create some new and interesting possibilities:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| acknowledges  adds  admits  agrees  argues  asserts  believes  claims  compares | concedes  confirms  contends  continues  declares  denies  disagrees  disputes  emphasizes | endorses  establishes  explains  finds  grants  implies  insists  maintains  notes | points out  proposes  reasons  refutes  responds  states  suggests |

Ways to vary introductory verbs

In the words of Herbert Terrace, “. . .”

As Flora Davis has noted, “. . .”

The Gardners, Washoe’s trainers, point out that “. . .”

“. . .” claims Noam Chomsky.

Psychologist H. S. Terrace offers an odd argument for this view “. . .”

Terrace answers these objections with the following analysis: “. . .”

Verbs that suggest you agree with your source

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| notes | points out | suggests | has discovered |

Verbs that suggest you are neutral or that you disagree with your souce

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| alleges | claims | contends | argues |