

Common Signal Phrases to Introduce a Quote, Paraphrase, or Summary

Says

The verb introduces the quotation as information.

Adds	Notes
Believes	Observes
Comments	Offers
Describes	Points out
Discusses	Remarks
Emphasizes	Reports
Explains	States
Mentions	Writes

Argues in favor

The verb indicates that the source is providing evidence or reasons for a position.

Argues	Indicates
Asserts	Insists
Contends	Maintains
Demonstrates	Proposes
Holds	Shows
Illustrates	Supports

States erroneously

The source makes a statement that you are skeptical about (be careful of your tone if you use these).

Alleges
 Assumes
 Claims

Continues

You continue to refer to or quote the source.

Adds
 Continues
 Goes on to say
 States further

Agrees

The verb indicates that the source agrees with another source or with the position you are advancing.

Accepts
 Agrees
 Assents
 Concur
 Parallels
 Supports

Yields

The source agrees that a conflicting point is valid.

Acknowledges
 Admits
 Agrees
 Allows
 Concedes
 Grants
 Recognizes

Argues against

The verb indicates that the source is responding critically to another source or with the position you are advancing.

Attacks	Disputes
Contradicts	Objects
Criticizes	Opposes
Denies	Rebuts
Differs	Refutes
Disagrees	

Implies

The source presents information either tentatively or indirectly.

Implies
 Proposes
 Suggests

Concludes

The source draws a conclusion from previous discussion.

Concludes
 Decides
 Determines
 Finds

Harris, R. (2002). <i>Using Sources Effectively</i> . Los Angeles: Pyczak Publishing
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