

STEP 3: NOTE CARDS

HOW TO SYNTHESIZE INFORMATION SO YOU DO NOT PLAGIARIZE

STEP 1- Read and annotate all research.

STEP 2- Think about what you want to use.

STEP 3- Without looking at the research, try to write out what it is you want to use- in your own words.

STEP 4- Check what you have written. Have you used the exact same wording as your reference? If yes. Try to re-write it again. If no, you successfully paraphrased the research and will not be accused of plagiarism:)

Often the article or research has stated the information so clearly that paraphrasing may alter the intended meaning. In this case, use a direct quote.

Limit the number of direct quotes, as you should be synthesizing the information, not just copying it from your sources.

Note Cards

- Think about how you want to categorize your information
- What are the main ideas into which you can categorize your research?
- The main ideas will turn into your paragraphs
- The topics on your note cards will reflect the main ideas for your paragraphs
- Therefore, the topics will repeat (for example, you may have several cards on "Background Information," or "Noteworthy Cases," or "Legislation") - it depends on your topic

*You MAY want to take notes,
THEN choose the topic headings
once you have an idea of how you
might categorize the information
and write them on your cards.

NOTE CARDS

On your annotated bibliography number your sources. Decide what information you will be using in your paper, and paraphrase this, or write the direct quote on the note card.

The title for the kind of information on the card

The name of the book, article, website etc.. in which you found the information.

Card Topic

Source

The quoted or paraphrased information that you found.

Paraphrased or a direct quote you plan on using in your paper.

Page you found the fact on

Keep track of page numbers for when you need them when creating internal citations.

SAMPLE Note Cards - Topic: Cell Phones: Do the risks outweigh the benefits?

<p>Laws & Legislation Ambrose</p> <p>2011 Charlie's Law is passed. 12 states adopted the law which bans cell phone use in cars following the death of Charlie Donnegan.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">14</p>	<p>Links to Accidents Harvard Center for Risk Analysis</p> <p>"In 2013, over 3,000 accidents were caused by distracted drivers."</p> <p style="text-align: right;">2</p>	<p>Risks Harvard Center for Analysis</p> <p>Distracted driving causes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -loss of focus -slower reaction times -increase in rear collisions -drivers to veer off the road <p style="text-align: right;">1</p>
<p>Educating Drivers Ambrose</p> <p>In New York, distracted driving is part of Driver's Education. The program stresses the statistics involved in distracted driving accidents.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">13</p>	<p>Laws & Legislation Harvard Center for Risk Analysis</p> <p>In the New Year, New Jersey passes law prohibiting use of cell phones and promotes ticket blitz to fine drivers breaking the law.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">1</p>	
<p>Educating Drivers Sundeen</p> <p>"In a recent interview, Justin Beiber said, 'If we don't shut up and hang up, we're putting each others' lives at risk. That's why I'm having all my fans sign a pledge to hang up while driving.'"</p> <p style="text-align: right;">np</p>	<p>Risks Cain</p> <p>Cell phone distractions slow down drivers' reaction time by 30 seconds.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">3</p>	

Attachments

Research Process 2011.pdf

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