

# Creating and Using In-Text Citations

Introducing quotations in an essay is an important skill that helps integrate outside sources seamlessly into your writing. Here are some guidelines on how to effectively introduce quotations:

- **Signal Phrase:**

Start with a signal phrase that introduces the source and provides context. For example:

"According to," "As Smith argues," "In the words of," etc. This helps prepare the reader for the incoming quotation and establishes the authority of the source.

**According to Smith,** "climate change is a pressing global issue that requires immediate attention."

- **Introduce the Author: ( Using Appositives)**

If the quotation is from a specific person, introduce the author's name before presenting the quote.

**John Doe, an expert on environmental science, states,** "The impact of deforestation on biodiversity is devastating."

- **Paraphrasing or Summarizing:**

Before presenting a direct quotation, you can paraphrase or summarize the source material to provide context.

In her study on consumer behavior, **Johnson** found that "customers are more likely to trust a brand that demonstrates transparency."

- **Citation:**

Always include proper citation information following the quotation. This typically includes the **author's name and page number (if applicable).**

"The journey of a thousand miles begins with one step" (Lao Tzu, 6).

Remember that quotations should support your argument and should be used sparingly.

Additionally, be sure to integrate them smoothly into your writing to maintain the flow of your essay.

**Signal phrases** are words or phrases that writers use to introduce and attribute information from sources in their writing. These phrases help integrate quotes or paraphrased material smoothly into the text, providing context and attribution. Here's a list of common signal phrases along with explanations of why they are used:

- **According to...**

According to Smith (2019), climate change is a pressing global issue.

- **In the words of...**

In the words of the expert, "The findings suggest a need for further research" (Jones, 2020, p. 45).

- **Smith argues/states/claims...**

Smith argues that technological advancements have revolutionized communication (2018, p. 112).

- **According to a study by...**

According to a study by Johnson and Williams (2021), the correlation between sleep and academic performance is significant.

- **Research shows...**

Research shows that regular exercise is linked to improved mental health (Brown et al., 2017).

- **As noted by...**

**As noted by experts in the field**, renewable energy sources are crucial for environmental sustainability (Johnson & Smith, 2020).

- **A study conducted by...**

A study conducted by Garcia (2018) found a strong correlation between diet and cardiovascular health.

- **Smith observes that...**

Smith observes that the shift towards remote work has advantages and challenges (2020, p. 76).

- **According to the latest research...**

According to the latest research, advancements in medical technology are transforming healthcare delivery (Jackson, 2023).

## In Text Citation Example

### 1. Look for parenthetical citations

Chocolate, derived from the cacao bean, has a rich and fascinating history that dates back to ancient Mesoamerican civilizations. The Aztecs, for instance, revered cacao as a divine gift, using it not only as a beverage but also as currency **(Coe and Coe 45)**. However, it wasn't until the Spanish conquest of the Aztecs in the 16th century that chocolate made its way to Europe **(Presilla 72)**. The introduction of chocolate to the European elite “led to the development of new culinary traditions, with sugar and other flavorings being added to enhance its taste” **(Coe and Coe 120)**. Over the centuries, chocolate has evolved from a luxury enjoyed by the elite to a widely consumed treat with various forms and flavors available to people around the world.

In this paragraph:

- The first in-text citation (Coe and Coe 45) refers to a book written by Michael D. Coe and Sophie D. Coe titled "The True History of Chocolate."
- The second in-text citation (Presilla 72) refers to a book by Maricel E. Presilla titled "The New Taste of Chocolate: A Cultural and Natural History of Cacao with Recipes."

## 2. Look for signal phrases!

The history of chocolate spans centuries, originating from ancient Mesoamerican civilizations.

**According to the research of Coe and Coe**, the Olmecs, who inhabited present-day Mexico around 1500 BCE, were among the first to cultivate cacao trees (Coe and Coe 36). These trees, with their precious pods, held significant cultural and economic value for the Aztecs and Mayans, who followed in the Olmecs' footsteps (Presilla 72). **Moreover, Mintz argues** that these early societies viewed chocolate as a sacred beverage consumed during religious ceremonies (Mintz 45). As European explorers like Hernán Cortés encountered chocolate in the 16th century, its introduction to the Old World marked the beginning of a complex global exchange (Coe and Coe 98). The transformation of chocolate from a Mesoamerican elixir to a popular European indulgence reflects the intricate interplay of culture, commerce, and colonialism (Mintz 61).

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