

ACCEPTABLE PARAPHRASES

When they learned of an ape's ability to use sign language, both linguists and animal behaviourists were taken by surprise (Davis 26).

According to Flora Davis, linguists and animal behaviourists were unprepared for the news that a chimp could communicate with its trainers through sign language (26).

R3**Integrating quotations**

If you include too many quotations in a research essay, readers form the impression that you cannot think for yourself. Use quotations only when a source is particularly clear or expressive or when it is important to let the debaters of an issue explain their positions in their own words. Except for this infrequent need for quotations, use your own words to summarize or paraphrase your sources and to explain your own ideas.

When you choose to use quotations, make sure that they are integrated smoothly into the text of your paper. Readers should be able to move from your own words to the words you quote without feeling a jolt.

R3-a Use signal phrases.

Avoid dropping quotations into the text without warning; instead, provide clear signal phrases, usually including the author's name, to prepare readers for the quotation.

DROPPED QUOTATION

Although the bald eagle is still listed as an endangered species, its ever-increasing population is very

encouraging. "The bald eagle seems to have stabilized its population, at the very least, almost everywhere" (Sheppard 96).

QUOTATION WITH SIGNAL PHRASE

Although the bald eagle is still listed as an endangered species, its ever-increasing population is very encouraging. According to ornithologist Jay Sheppard, "The bald eagle seems to have stabilized its population, at the very least, almost everywhere" (96).

To avoid monotony, try to vary your signal phrases. The following models suggest a range of possibilities.

In the words of researcher Herbert Terrace, "..."

As Flora Davis has noted, "..."

The Gardeners, Washoe's trainers, point out that "..."

"...", claims linguist Noam Chomsky.

Psychologist H. S. Terrace offers an odd argument for this view: "..."

Terrace answers these objections with the following analysis: "..."

When your signal phrase includes a verb, choose one that is appropriate in the context. Is your source arguing a point, making an observation, reporting a fact, drawing a conclusion, refuting an argument, or stating a belief? By choosing an appropriate verb, such as one on the following list, you can make your source's stance clear.

acknowledges	comments	endorses	reasons
adds	compares	grants	refutes
admits	confirms	illustrates	rejects
agrees	contends	implies	reports
argues	declares	insists	responds
asserts	denies	notes	suggests
believes	disputes	observes	thinks
claims	emphasizes	points out	writes

It is not always necessary to quote full sentences from a source. At times you may wish to borrow only a phrase or to weave part of a source's sentence into your own sentence structure.

Bruce Bower reports that Kanzi practises "simple grammatical ordering rules," such as putting actions before objects (140).

Perhaps the best summation of the current state of ape language studies comes from biologist Robert Seyfarth, who writes that the line separating humans from other animals "remains hazily drawn, somewhere between the word and the sentence" (18).

R3-b Set off long quotations.

When you quote more than four typed lines of prose or more than three lines of poetry, set off the quotation by indenting it 10 spaces from the left margin. (See P6-b.) Use the normal right margin and do not single-space.

Long quotations should be introduced by an informative sentence, usually followed by a colon. Quotation marks are unnecessary because the indented format tells readers that the words are taken directly from the source.

Desmond describes how Washoe tried signing to the other apes when the Gardners returned her to an ape colony in Oklahoma:

One particularly memorable day, a snake spread terror through the castaways on the ape island, and all but one fled in panic. This male sat absorbed, staring intently at the serpent. Then Washoe was seen running over signing to him "come, hurry up." (42)

Notice that at the end of an indented quotation the parenthetical citation goes outside the final period.

R3-c Use the ellipsis mark and brackets to indicate changes you make in a quotation.

Two useful marks of punctuation, the ellipsis mark and brackets, allow you to keep quoted material to a minimum and to integrate it smoothly into your text.

The ellipsis mark

To condense a quoted passage, you can use the ellipsis mark (three periods, with spaces between) to indicate that you have omitted words. The sentence that remains must be grammatically complete.

In a recent New York Times article, Erik Eckholm reports that "a 4-year-old pygmy chimpanzee . . . has demonstrated what scientists say are the most human-like linguistic skills ever documented in another animal" (A1).

The writer has omitted the words *at a research center near Atlanta*, which appeared in the original.

When you want to omit a full sentence or more, use a period before the three ellipsis dots.

According to Wade, the horse Clever Hans "could apparently count by tapping out numbers with his hoof. . . . Clever Hans owes his celebrity to his master's innocence. Von Osten sincerely believed he had taught Hans to solve arithmetical problems" (1349).

Ordinarily, do not use an ellipsis mark at the beginning or at the end of a quotation. Your readers will understand that the quoted material is taken from a longer passage. The only exception occurs when you have omitted words at the end of the final quoted sentence.

Obviously you should not use an ellipsis mark to distort the meaning of your source.

Brackets

Brackets (square parentheses) allow you to insert words of your own into quoted material, perhaps to explain a confusing reference or to keep a sentence grammatical in your context.

Robert Seyfarth reports that "Premack [a scientist at the University of Pennsylvania] taught a seven-year-old chimpanzee, Sarah, that the word for 'apple' was a small, plastic triangle" (13).

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