

In order to write a Literature Review, you need to know how to paraphrase, when to quote, and the basic APA format for including paraphrases and quotations

Literature Review: Paraphrasing

Paraphrasing is the predominant way of introducing source material into a literature review.

Paraphrasing is where you take the information from a source and restate it in your own words. Because you are getting the information from a source, you need to cite the material but you also need to mix the thoughts and ideas your research with your own thoughts and ideas about the information

In fact, you must be able to appropriately combine information from many sources together to support *your own* thesis statement.

The following quotation is an experts' paraphrase of information from many different sources.

(Notice how two sources are in the parenthesized citation. It is common in a literature review to have several sources cited within the parentheses for one sentence of general information).*

The highlighted portion is writer's own voice (purpose for writing). The underlined information is paraphrased information:

Dual language bilingual programs address several serious issues facing education in the United States. ELs are no longer segregated for any portion of the school day but are receiving the same core academic curriculum as their English-dominant peers. It is the kind of access ELs have to high-status knowledge and the quality of instructional interactions in dual language programs that defines educational quality and promotes greater equity. This is possible because effective dual language classrooms promote a high degree of student involvement (A.G. Ramirez & Stromquist, 1978; Strong, 1983), contextualize classroom discourse (Wong Fillmore & Valadez, 1986), and value students' cultural and linguistic backgrounds (García, 2005). This situation empowers native Spanish and native English speakers by promoting native Spanish and English language development as well as academic progress, and it nurtures a strong sense of self-identity" (Christian, 1999; Thomas & Collier, 1999).

Here is how it is done:

Find quotes from your research that support a specific theme. In this case, the effectiveness of dual language bilingual programs.

Two sources used:

“It appears that the dual language program’s use of Spanish did not retard or impede children’s acquisition of English or their English academic achievement” (Alanís & Rodríguez, 2010, p. 311).

“Overall, these results for generally low SES Hispanic students support findings in the literature on dual language programs that students in these programs- whether initially EP or ELL- outperform their peers in mainstream classes on tests in English” (Lindholm-Leary & Block, 2010, p. 57.)

Think about what you want to say:

I want to point out that students in dual language classes learn better in students not in dual language classes.

Combine what you want to say with the quotes to state the information in your own voice while still citing the source material the main ideas came from:

My Paraphrase supporting my voice:

There is overwhelming evidence from the literature examined that students in the Dual Bilingual Programs studied do not harm students’ English acquisition (Alanís & Rodríguez, 2010, p. 311,) but rather, many actually outperforming their peers in mainstream classes on tests in English (Lindholm-Leary & Block, 2010, p. 57.)

Literature Review: Quotations

Use quotations sparingly. The survey nature of a literature review doesn’t allow for in-depth discussion or detailed quotes from the text. A few short quotations that emphasize a point is sufficient.

Good use of a quotation or partial quotation would be in the following situations:

- When presenting statistics/numerical facts
- When defining discipline-specific terms
- When giving an expert’s opinion statement

Example: *Using a quotation to define Dual Language Bilingual Program*

According to Alanís and Rodríguez (2008), Dual Language Bilingual Programs involve the use of two languages for classroom instruction and learning in which “Biliteracy is as much an aim as full bilingualism, with literacy being acquired in both languages either simultaneously or with an initial emphasis on native language literacy” (p. 306).

Literature Review: Basic APA Format

Include the author’s last name and the year either in a signal phrase introducing the passage or in parentheses following the passage. A page number or another locator is not required for a summary or a paraphrase, but include one if it would help readers find the passage in a long work.

Most of the information will be cited using parentheses following the passage. This puts the emphasis on the information and not the author.

However, occasionally you will want to use a signal phrase to highlight the author. This is done to lend authority to the information.

Examples of Signal Phrases for Authority:

You can use the following introductory phrases to reference your source.

Note: When you first reference your source, use the author’s full name and state their credentials for credibility.

- **The author’s name**
 - According to Doe (2008),
 - John Doe (2008) found that
 - Doe’s research results (2008) indicated that
 - A study conducted by John Doe (2008) demonstrated that
- **A description of the author** (credentials, job title, etc.)
 - Yale University speech therapist, John Doe (2008), reported
 - John Doe (2008), a state of California biologist, commented
- **A brief summary of the content**
 - According to an article in the Lighting Institute Web site...
 - In *Writing good paraphrase* by John Doe (2008), data evidenced that
 - A rhetorical analysis by John Doe (2008) has shown
 - A recent article in *Psychology Weekly* remarked that...

Use the verb chart available on the Literature Review website to help vary how you introduce your signal phrases.