

Use the outline to take more notes on your sources and your reflections on the information in those sources.

Keep an eye on the proportion of words that are directly quoted.

No long signal phrases such as: *According to Joseph Maria of the New York Times in the article called . . .* .NO! Longest a signal phrase should be is *According to Joseph Maria*. Anonymous and you want to use a signal phrase. *According to "New York," . . .* ("New York")

Anonymous author: ("New York") for an article called "New York State Legislature Considers New Marijuana Law." Use the first two distinguishing words of the title.

Author's known: (Maria). If it's paginated, then (Maria 52) for the author named Joseph Maria.

Citation rules: No more than two sentences per parenthetical cite when not using a signal word or phrase. If you use a signal word or phrase (Joseph Smith informs us . . . .), then you can have as many sentences as you want followed by the parenthetical citation. For additional information on citation, see the links in my syllabus under "Research Project." Here's another link: [Purdue Writing Lab on MLA](#).

Must have a "Works Cited" page.

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Here are three examples of citing sources and then developing thought in response to the source. When you are citing material, it must be important. You explain that importance in the form of your reflection on that material, your interpretation of its importance. That is what you do for the reading audience of the paper:

1. Social media sites have had firewalls broken by the NSA without permission (Smith 2). This has created millions of victims of governmental surveillance. China uses Juiebo, its own Twitter-like service, to track the political views of citizens but we are not a one-party state.
2. Vice President Cheney noted that Snowden sought immediate refuge in China (Joseph). If Snowden's revelations are so vital to protecting our rights, then why seek refuge in a country not known for its protection of free thought and speech.
3. President Jimmy Carter says “. . . he broke the law, but I think it's good for Americans to know the kinds of things that have been revealed by him and others, and that is that since 9/11, we've gone too far in intrusion on the privacy that Americans ought to enjoy as a right of citizenship” (Johnson). The authority of a president, sworn to uphold the Constitution, should be taken seriously. Someone in President Carter's position is very sensitive to national security concerns and, therefore, . . . .

Prose: Simple sentences if you are not comfortable with writing. If comfortable, then use more complex sentences that require the use of commas, semicolons, multiple phrases and clausees

Must have a "Works Cited" page. That consists of bibliographic sentences of only the works you cite.

Check “grammar” and “style” in MS Word.

KISS

Rely on simple(r) sentences when in doubt about your facility with more complex sentences.