VERBS TO INTRODUCE QUOTATIONS AND PARAPHRASES

In an academic paper where you need to refer to the ideas of other writers and researchers in your field, you will need to introduce their ideas to the readers using **reporting verbs**. The most commonly used verbs for this purpose tend to be in these forms : "X states that....", "Y says that....", or "It is said that...." etc. However, these are **not** the **only** verbs used to refer to the ideas of other writers. To prevent the over-use of the above examples, you can choose from the following list of reference verbs. This list has been arranged in alphabetical order. We recommend that you check the dictionary for their meaning and usage.

acknowledge	examine	point out
add	expand on	provide
admit	explain	put forward
advise	explore	question
advocate	express	quote
agree	feel	refer to
analyze	find	refute
argue	form	reject
assert	focus on	report
believe	give example	represent
claim	go on to say	respond
comment	identify	reveal
compare	imply	see
conclude	include	separate
confirm	incorporate	show
concentrate	indicate	stand for
continue	insist	state
criticize	interpret	stress
deal with	introduce	suggest
define	judge	support
demonstrate	justify	talk about
deny	link	think
describe	list	tend to
develop	locate	treat
disagree	maintain	try to
discuss	negate	use
dispute	note	underline
distinguish	object to	underscore
emphasize	observe	view
endeavour	offer oppose	write

Categorized Lists:

Below is a categorized version of the above list, though it does not cover all the possible words. You need to add some more to these lists as you encounter them in your own reading. **We recommend that you check the dictionary for their meaning and use.**

Verbs and other expressions neutral in meaning :				
according to	comment	describe	note	state
acknowledge	define	discuss	point out	

Verbs that indicate the author's position on an issue:				
argue	claim	emphasize	recommend	suggest
assert	defend	maintain	reject	support
challenge	doubt	put forward	refute	

Verbs that indicate what the author's thinking:		
assume	consider	recognize
believe	hypothesize	think

Verbs that indicate that the author is showing something:		
demonstrate	illustrate	present
explain	indicate	show

Verbs that indicate that the author is proving something:		
confirm	prove	validate
establish	substantiate	verify

Verbs that indicate what the author did:				
analyze	estimate	examine	investigate	study
apply	evaluate	find	observe	

Verbs and expressions to include slight uncertainty when drawing conclusions:

When reporting a particular academic study, experimentation or observation, researchers need to be very careful about the kind of language to use in order to convey realistic and true messages to the academic circles. This is why they often need to be very clear about the level of certainty they can adopt about the conclusions and observations. The best and most frequent way to do this is to use some of the constructions below in your language. We recommend that you check the dictionary for their meaning and use.

Modals : may, might, can, could, would, should

Verbs: seem to, appear to, believe, assume, suggest, estimate, tend to, think, indicate

Adjectives and adverbs: possible, probable, likely, unlikely, perhaps, possibly, probably