

Quotation Integration

In order to blend material from outside sources smoothly into your writing, it is important to vary the words you use when introducing quotations. Try the following verbs in place of the old and overused standby --“states” -- the next time you conduct intertextual analysis:

To show continuation of thought (especially if one quotation follows another):

maintains
continues
concur
underscores
insists
adds
explores
declares

To indicate a point made forcefully:

asserts
argues
stresses
reiterates
emphasizes
insists
engages
underscores

To indicate the author’s agreement with material:

agrees
concur
affirms
supports
upholds

To communicate a subtle argument or implied idea:

believes
implies
observes
assumes
examines

To indicate your own feelings about a particular source or quotation:

Place an adverb before the verb.

seemingly indicates
theoretically justifies
falsely condemns
incorrectly assumes
accurately presumes
poorly summarizes
wrongly accuses
correctly interprets
presumably concurs

Terms of neutrality:

states
notes
says
writes
comments
observes
presents
remarks
describes
mentions
points to
indicates

**To indicate the idea as a possibility
(and not a hardened fact):**

finds
proposes
suggests
observes
speculates

**To put the author in conversation
with another source:**

remarks
replies
responds
restates
repeats
answers

Other words to think about:

overlooks
persuades
justifies
muses
theorizes
categorizes
interprets

To indicate closure:

summarizes
concludes
closes
finishes
terminates

**To indicate the author's
disagreement with material:**

counters
denies
disagrees
contests
condemns
accuses
charges
assaults