

Merging Information from Multiple Sources

**Synthesizing Key Ideas:
Quoting, Paraphrasing, Summarizing**

This Week!

- In Class Work:
 - Read through the presentation. Complete the accompanying Handout as you read through the presentation. You will be expected to turn in the handout via Dropbox or email.
- Homework:
 - Your homework will be to revise your drafts of your Unit 2 Project. Your final projects will be due Monday, April 20th. I will send you comments on the drafts ASAP. Begin revising them as soon as you receive the comments.

Why?

- As we begin to wrap up Unit 2, we are going to start Unit 3. In Unit 3, we are going to use the research you gathered on your topic to explore the problem and solution further.
- You will create what we call a “multimodal” project. A “multimodal” project is a project that involves using more than just words to present a message. They might involve audio or visual messages as well. We will talk more about this later!

So What?

- Now you have a topic, you have an introduction that briefly explains the problem and a conclusion that describes briefly your proposed solution to the problem.
- You also have 4 sources on your topic.
- I want to demonstrate 3 key ways to gather information from sources that will provide the evidence, reasons and reasoning to make your argument stronger.
- This week we will look at how to **synthesize ideas from multiple sources by using 3 key strategies: summarizing, paraphrasing and quoting** from sources.

The Challenge

- The challenge is **how to integrate other voices with your own**
- How do you let your audience hear from expert sources without taking over your voice?
- How do not misrepresent the ideas of others when sharing their research?
- How do you integrate quotes and ideas of others?

Synthesizing?

- What does it mean to synthesize?

ACTIVITY

STEP 1:

Watch this short YouTube Video:

[https://
www.youtube.com/
watch?v=Ks7jmfeY3bo](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ks7jmfeY3bo)

STEP 2:

Notice how the DJ “mashed up” or brought together music from various different musicians to create something new!

STEP 3

Think about what you think it might mean to synthesize ideas?

Synthesizing

- Synthesis: bringing together material and ideas from various sources to create something new.
- When you research, you don't just put together lots of ideas you find, you need to **synthesize** what the research says—that means you identify connections among them and blend them together into a coherent idea of your own.
- When you synthesize, you make your own mash-up—you coherently put together the ideas of others to strengthen your argument or stance.

Synthesizing Ideas in Sources

- On the next couple of slide, I ask different questions. I have an accompanying handout for the week on OpenLab. See the link here:
- **Please fill out the handout and submit the handout to me via Dropbox, OpenLab or email as your participation grade.**

Question 1

- What issues, problems, or controversies do your sources address?

Question 2

- What information do your sources have in common? Any ideas? Facts? Examples? Statistics? Are any people cited in more than one source?

Question 3

- What significant differences do you find among sources? Different stances? Positions? Purposes? Kinds of evidence? Conclusions?

Question 4

- Do any of your sources cite or refer to one another? Does one source provide details, examples or explanations that build on something said in another? Does any source respond significantly to something said in another?

Quoting, Paraphrasing, Summarizing

- Now comes the tricky part! You know the information that you want to merge.
- But you have to decide **HOW** to integrate that voice into your writing.

Quoting, Paraphrasing, Summarizing

WHAT

Quotation

- A quotation is someone's exact words, enclosed in quotation marks or set off in blocks from the rest of your text

Paraphrase

- Paraphrasing is when you use your own words to restate what another author is saying. *You take the ideas of a source and put them in your own words.*

Summary

- Summarizing is when you summarize (VERY BRIEFLY) the main point of a piece. You only include the main point made or the argument of the piece, NOT the supporting details or evidence.

When to Quote

- When it is said so well, it cannot be said better
- If the concept is so complex that it would be over simplified to paraphrase
- If your purpose is to analyze the text and what the author is saying
- If the expert's exact words help establish your credibility or authority
- To use the quote as powerful, direct evidence of a claim you make, eliminating the possibility that you have presented a biased interpretation of the facts
- To use the quote as a way of offering a counterargument/ counterclaim and making sure you represent their opinions fairly

How to Quote

- Use the EXACT words of the source!
- Don't include too many quotes! Just enough to make your point!
- Enclose quotations shorter than 4 typed lines in quotation marks “ ---”
- If a quotation is longer than 4 lines, do not put them in quotation marks, instead, indent the paragraph from the left margin.

How to Quote

- Use a comma to introduce a quotation
- Put commas and periods within quotation marks, except when a parenthetical reference follows.
 - He said, "I may forget your name, but I never forget a face."
 - History is stained with blood spilled in the name of "civilization."
 - Mullen, criticizing the apparent inaction, writes, "Donahue's policy was to do nothing" (24).
- Place colons and semicolons outside closed quotation marks.
 - Williams described the experiment as "a definitive step forward"; other scientists disagreed.
 - Benedetto emphasizes three elements of what she calls her "Olympic journey": family support, personal commitment, and great coaching.

How to Quote

- Place a question mark or exclamation point within closing quotation marks if the punctuation applies to the quotation itself. Place the punctuation outside the closing quotation marks if the punctuation applies to the whole sentence.
 - Phillip asked, "Do you need this book?"
 - Does Dr. Lim always say to her students, "You must work harder"?
- IF you have to change a quote, then show the changes in brackets.

TRY IT!

- Look through your sources
- Think about your topic's problem/ solution
- Find one quote from your sources that you think meets the criteria of what to quote.
- Record the quote using proper formatting on the Handout. Introduce it using a signal word. (he argued, she said, etc). Explain in 1-2 sentences WHY you would quote from this source and not paraphrase or summarize the section.

WHEN to Paraphrase

- To clarify, simplify, or select only relevant information from another source
- To smoothly connect the information with the other content in your article
- To avoid too many competing voices in a text
- To maintain your tone, voice, and flow

HOW to Paraphrase

- It is very important to retain the meaning of the original text and to give credit to the source that provided the information by using a citation, and to not use the author's words directly.
- Describe the main ideas and the details the author uses to support their argument
- Use your own words
- Change the author's words and order of words
- CITE the source

EXAMPLE Paraphrasing

ORIGINAL TEXT

Original source

As the romance of manned space exploration has waned, the drive today is to find our living, thinking counterparts in the universe. For all the excitement, however, the search betrays a profound melancholy—a lonely species in a merciless universe anxiously awaits an answering voice amid utter silence. That silence is maddening. Not just because it compounds our feeling of cosmic isolation, but because it makes no sense. As we inevitably find more and more exo-planets where intelligent life *can* exist, why have we found no evidence—no signals, no radio waves—that intelligent life *does* exist?

—CHARLES KRAUTHAMMER, "Are We Alone in the Universe?"

EXAMPLE Paraphrasing

Unacceptable Summary: Misrepresents Source

Consider the

Unacceptable summary: misrepresents the source

Pulitzer Prize–winning columnist Charles Krauthammer extols the virtues of space exploration.

This summary both misses the point of Krauthammer’s questioning our troubled search for “intelligent life” beyond earth and claims that the author praises space exploration when at no point in the passage does he do so.

provides too many details

EXAMPLE Paraphrasing

Unacceptable Summary: Too Many Details

Unacceptable summary: provides too many details

Award-winning columnist Charles Krauthammer suggests that while sending people into space is no longer as exciting to us as it once was, we are interested in finding out if there is life in the universe beyond Earth. He laments the feeling of being alone in the universe given that all signs point to the very real possibility that intelligent life exists elsewhere. Krauthammer wonders “why we have no evidence . . . of intelligent life” on other habitable planets. He finds this lack of proof confounding.

This summary is almost as long as the original passage and includes as many details. As a summary, it doesn't let readers know what points are most important.

EXAMPLE Paraphrasing

Unacceptable Summary: Too Many General

Unacceptable summary: too general

Charles Krauthammer is concerned about the search for life on other planets.

While the statement above is not false, it does not adequately reflect Krauthammer's main point in a way that will help the reader get the gist of the original passage. A better summary would tell readers what precisely about the search for life concerns Krauthammer.

Jordan on p. 515. First, write

EXAMPLE Paraphrasing

Acceptable Paraphrase

Syndicated columnist Charles Kruthammer observes that our current quest to discover other “intelligent life” in the universe comes just as the allure of exploring outer space is dimming. It’s a search, he says, that reveals a deep sadness (that we may in fact be living in a “cosmic isolation”) and a growing frustration: if scientists continue to discover more planets where life like ours can be sustainable, why do we find no actual sign of life (A19)?

TRY IT!

- Look through your sources
- Think about your topic's problem/ solution
- Find one place in one of your sources that you would like to try to paraphrase.
- Paraphrase the section and record it on the Handout. Explain in 1-2 sentences WHY you would paraphrase this section and not quote it or summarize it.

WHEN to Summarize

- When you only want to present the *MOST* important points and do not need to include the details.
- You only include the point made or the argument of the piece, *NOT* the supporting details or evidence.

HOW to Summarize

- Capture the main idea/ argument of a source's author (leave out details, etc). You may include supporting ideas but not supporting details.
- Keep summary SHORT
- Write in your own words
- Give credit to the author (use signal words and in text citation!)

EXAMPLE

Unacceptable summary: misrepresents the source

Pulitzer Prize–winning columnist Charles Krauthammer extols the virtues of space exploration.

This summary both misses the point of Krauthammer's questioning our troubled search for "intelligent life" beyond earth and claims that the author praises space exploration when at no point in the passage does he do so.

EXAMPLE

- Unacceptable Summary: Too Many Details

Unacceptable summary: provides too many details

Award-winning columnist Charles Krauthammer suggests that while sending people into space is no longer as exciting to us as it once was, we are interested in finding out if there is life in the universe beyond Earth. He laments the feeling of being alone in the universe given that all signs point to the very real possibility that intelligent life exists elsewhere. Krauthammer wonders “why we have no evidence . . . of intelligent life” on other habitable planets. He finds this lack of proof confounding.

This summary is almost as long as the original passage and includes as many details. As a summary, it doesn't let readers know what points are most important.

EXAMPLE

- Unacceptable Summary: Too General

Unacceptable summary: too general

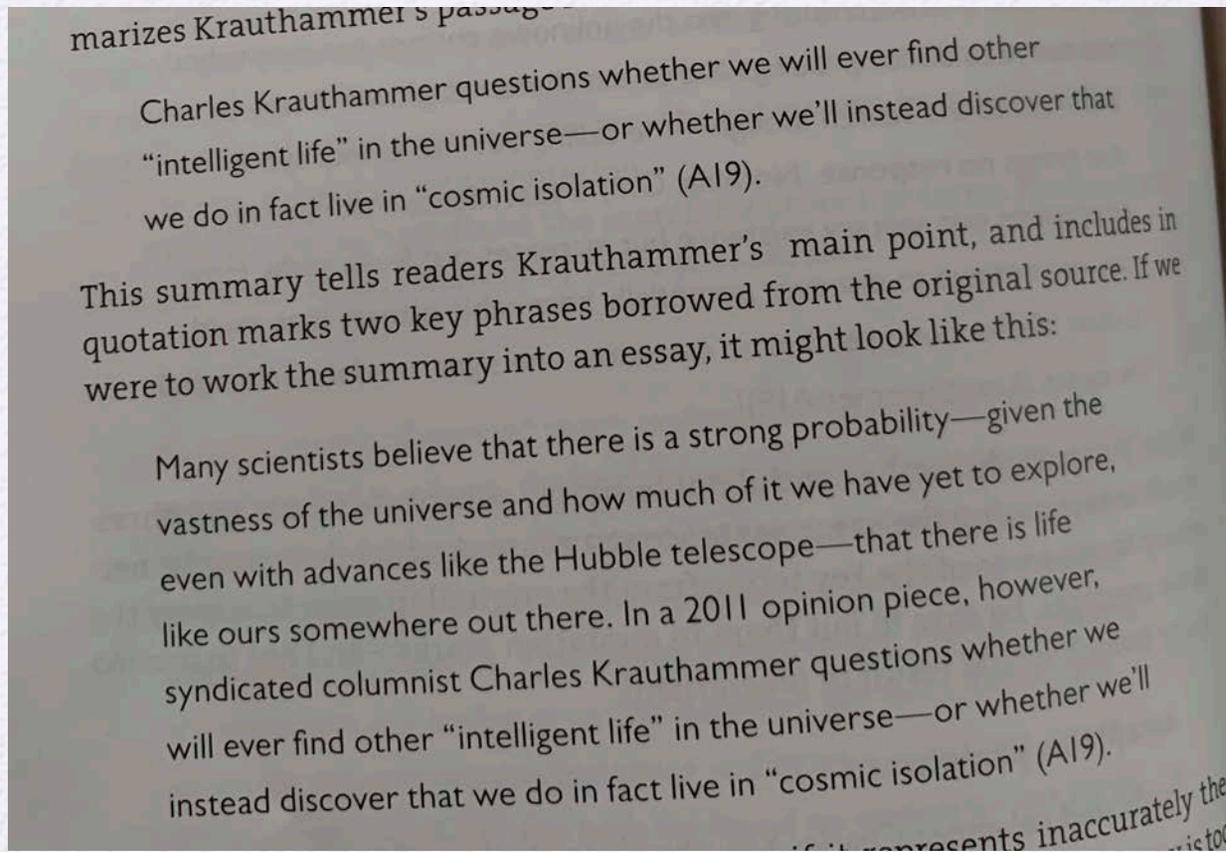
Charles Krauthammer is concerned about the search for life on other planets.

While the statement above is not false, it does not adequately reflect Krauthammer's main point in a way that will help the reader get the gist of the original passage. A better summary would tell readers what precisely about the search for life concerns Krauthammer.

Jordan on p. 515. First, write

EXAMPLES

- Two Strong Summaries



TRY IT!

- Look through your sources
- Think about your topic's problem/ solution
- Find one place in one of your sources that you would like to try to summarize
- Summarize the section and record it on the Handout. Explain in 1-2 sentences WHY you would summarize this section and not quote it or paraphrase it.

Make It Clear WHY

- Whether you are quoting, paraphrasing or summarizing information from a source, you must make it clear to the reader WHY you are including the source.
- Do this by:
 - Introducing the source (naming author or identifying them in some way)
 - Follow the quotation/ paraphrase/ summary with an explanation that demonstrates how it relates to your point

Signal Phrases

- Use signal phrases to introduce the quotes, paraphrase section or summary.

- Acknowledges
- Adds
- Agrees
- Asserts
- Believes
- Claims
- Concludes
- Contends
- Declares
- Disagrees
- Implies
- Notes
- Objects
- Observes
- Replies
- Reports
- Responds
- Says
- Suggests
- Thinks
- Writes

Have a great week!