**Signal Phrases**

Signal phrases introduce a quote or paraphrase into written work. Writers should always use signal phrases when including information from sources.

I read a journal article by Brenda Harkless. Writing Labs throughout the country provide help to students at all levels.

According to Harkless, writing labs throughout the country provide help to students at all levels (23).

I read that writing labs also provide helpful handouts on a wide-range of topics.

Harkless points out that writing labs also provide helpful handouts on a wide-range of topics (32).

**Other Examples:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| As Redmond notes …  | McCullum concludes… |
| **https://blueoctopusllc.files.wordpress.com/2013/08/verificare-apia.jpg**Smith reports …  | Necaise contrasts this idea… |
| Moreover, Hammond adds…  | Oriakhi argues… |

***TIP***: APA includes the year immediately after the name. See our guides on APA and MLA for details and options for citations.

**Common Signal Phrases and Verbs:**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| According to  | Points out  | Defines | Adds | Proposes  |
| Admits | Presents | Expresses | Discloses | Delineates |
| Agrees | Discounts | Confirms | Asserts | Implies |
| Refutes | Comments | Compares | Contrasts | Creates |
| Reports | Documents | Explains | Recounts | Suggests |
| Illustrates | Claims | Comments | Acknowledges | Highlights |
| Emphasizes | Indicates | Maintains | Notes | Observes |

 ***\*APA uses past-tense or present-perfect verbs***

**Signal Phrases and Direct Quotes**

*Direct Quote without a Signal Phrase:*

However, students may consider eTutoring as an option if travelling to campus is inconvenient. “Online tutoring at Sinclair is a proven tool that aids in student success” (Price 217).

*Direct Quote with a Signal Phrase:*

However, students may consider eTutoring as an option if travelling to campus in inconvenient. According to Elizabeth Price, “Online tutoring at Sinclair is a proven tool that aids in student success” (217).