Appendix for Effective Quoting

Signal phrases

Signal phrases usually contain the source author's name (or an indication of it, such as "One editor" and "he") and a verb that tells the author's attitude or approach to what he or she says. Let's see two more examples:

> As explained by Russell in the evaluation of the event, "[t]he French youth used digital communication tools and networks to coordinate with one another, exchange opinions and information, and to circulate calls to action" (p. 286).

> According to Russell, "the shift features the rise of the news media consumer-participant as a de facto member-architect of the profession" (p. 286). Essentially, Russell is saying that new media is created by both the professional journalists and the consumers themselves. [The writer here provides a further explanation for the quote.]

Here is a list of common verbs that convey information about the source author's attitudes or approaches.

Author is neutral	Author infers or suggests	Author argues	Author agrees	Author is uneasy or disparaging
comments	analyzes	claims	admits	belittles
describes	asks	contends	agrees	bemoans
explains	assesses	defends	concedes	complains
illustrates	concludes	disagrees	concurs	condemns
notes	finds	holds	grants	deplores
observes	predicts	insists		deprecates
points out	proposes	maintains		derides
records	reveals			laments
relates	shows			warns
reports	speculates			
says	suggests			
sees	supposes			
thinks				
writes				

Background information

Oftentimes we add certain background information in the signal phrases (or even sentences). In most cases, you provide the author's name, like many examples above do, or you present the source title, or credentials of the author if such information reinforces or clarifies the quotation. But when this information interferes with the flow of your sentence, put it in the parentheses at the end of your sentence.

Example:

Salkind says in *Exploring Research* that "[n]obody should take what is printed as absolute truth, but magazines, such as *Time*, *Newsweek* and *U.S. News and World Report* can keep you well-informed" (p. 46).

Sometimes the background information is more sophisticated as to include an explanation of the context for your quotation. Doing so, you give the reader a frame for understanding how you use the source.

Example:
But if we refuse to retrofit the term code hero to Nick simply because he is a Hemingway protagonist and we allow the text to have its say, it becomes clear that "Hemingway's self-projection in Nick Adams is of an often frightened, often mistaken, and bewildered young man" (Gadjusek 37).

Works Cited

Fowler, H. Ramsey and Jane E. Aaron. *The Little, Brown Handbook*. Custom edition for Baruch College. *The Little Brown Handbook*. Tenth edition. Boston: Pearson Education, 2007.

 "How to Work with Information from Sources." The Bedford Researcher Online. 2010. The Bedford Researcher. 20 March 2010 <http://bcs.bedfordstmartins.com/bedfordresearcher3e/pages/bcs-main.asp?s= 99000&n=00060&i=99060.01&v=chapter&o=|00050|00060|&ns=98&uid=0&rau=0>.

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