

Ways to Introduce Evidence

One phrase that is often used to introduce a quotation is:

According to the author, . . .

Neutral Verbs: When used to introduce a quote, the following verbs basically mean "says".

Examples of Neutral Verbs

The author says . . .	The author notes . . .
The author believes . . .	The author observes . . .
The author comments . . .	The author relates . . .
The author declares . . .	The author remarks . . .
The author discusses . . .	The author reports . . .
The author explains . . .	The author reveals . . .
The author expresses . . .	The author states . . .
The author mentions . . .	The author acknowledges . . .
The author suggests . . .	The author thinks . . .
The author points out . . .	The author responds . . .
The author shows . . .	The author confirms . . .

Stronger Verbs: These verbs indicate that there is some kind of argument, and that the quote shows either support of or disagreement with one side of the argument.

Examples of Stronger Verbs

The author agrees . . .	The author rejects . . .
The author argues . . .	The author compares . . . (the two studies)
The author asserts . . .	The author admits . . .
The author cautions . . .	The author disputes . . .
The author emphasizes . . .	The author contends . . .
The author insists . . .	The author denies . . .
The author maintains . . .	The author refutes . . .
The author claims . . .	The author endorses . . .

Inference Verbs: These indicate that there is some kind of argument, and that the quote shows either support of or disagreement with one side of the argument.

Examples of Inference Verbs

The author implies . . .
The author suggests . . .
The author thinks . . .