



The Writing Center

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO

DENVER | ANSCHUTZ MEDICAL CAMPUS

Words to Introduce Quotations

You may use direct quotations objectively to introduce an author, or you can spice it up and introduce the quotation with a more explanatory word meant to describe your opinions about the author in question. A more expressive word, used correctly, can add emphasis and meaning to a paper. Remember, the word chosen will depend upon how *you*, the writer, want to introduce each specific quotation. **In short, these words are not interchangeable.** They do not all mean the same thing; hence, it is best to make use of a dictionary before using them. The list of words compiled is divided into four categories.

Straightforward, uncomplicated words:

Argues
Asks
Cites
Finds
Names
Notes
Says
Shows
States
Suggests
Views
Writes

Words introducing counter arguments:

Chastises
Contrasts
Counters
Criticizes
Denies
Denounces
Negates
Questions

Renounces
Retaliates
Retorts
Warns

Expressive words:

Accepts
Acknowledges
Addresses
Adds
Admits
Advances
Affirms
Agrees
Alleges
Allows
Analyzes
Announces
Answers
Articulates
Asserts
Assesses
Attests
Believes
Brings forth
Categorizes

Claims
Clarifies
Comments on
Compares
Complies
Concludes
Concurs
Confirms
Considers
Contemplates
Contends
Declares
Defines
Demonstrates
Describes
Determines
Discovers
Evaluates
Examines
Explains
Explores
Hypothesizes
Identifies
Illustrates
Implies
Inquires
Inspects

Interprets
Investigates
Learns
Lists
Makes the case
Mentions
Observes
Offers
Points out
Ponders
Presents
Prompts
Promotes
Proposes
Proves
Proclaims
Pronounces
Recognizes
Reinforces
Refers to
Remarks
Reminds us
Replies
Reports
Responds
Reveals
Reviews
Stresses
Studies
Summarizes
Supports
Surveys
Verifies
Warns

Mega expressive words:

Acquiesces
Appraises
Ascertain
Bemoans
Braggs
Castigates
Concedes

Conceives
Critiques
Deliberates
Delineates
Discloses
Detracts from
Discerns
Emphasizes
Encapsulates
Encourages
Entangles
Envisions
Estimates
Exhibits
Expounds on
Expresses
Fabricates
Foreshadows
Foretells
Fosters
Furnishes
Generates
Grants
Grapples
Gushes
Hammers
Hopes
Immortalizes
Impoverishes
Impugns
Jests
Labors
Lambastes
Lavishes
Longs
Magnifies
Maintains
Maligns
Manipulates
Masks
Measures
Minimizes
Misappropriates
Moralizes
Muses

Nurtures
Obscures
Overlooks
Overreacts
Perceives
Persuades
Perverts
Posit
Postulates
Postures
Preempts
Preaches
Publicize
Rambles
Rationalizes
Rebukes
Recapitulates
Reconciles
Reminisces
Repudiates
Resigns
Revokes
Savors
Scrutinizes
Sentimentalizes
Stipulates
Surpasses
Sympathizes
Synthesizes
Testifies
Traces
Transcends
Uncovers
Unearths
Withholds
Witnesses