**Integrating a citation into a paragraph (IEEE)**

Your citation must be well integrated into your paragraph. The following ‘formula’ can help you integrate citations logically into your paragraphs as you become a more sophisticated academic writer:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **PARAGRAPH** | **EXPLANATION** |
| **#1**: TOPIC SENTENCE  **#2**: ELABORATION  **#3: Citation**  **#4**: ELABORATION  **#5**: CONCLUDING SENTENCE | **Connecting sentence**, linking the citation with the **main idea**  **Citation** (You must include the Author’s **surname** and the **reference number** for integral citations)  **Connecting sentence** explaining **why the citation is relevant/interesting**. (You might not need a connecting explanation before AND after) |

*In the paragraphs below, highlight the citation; identify the topic sentences, the elaboration and the ‘connecting sentences’****.***

Sample 1:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **(A)** An effective scientist has to possess excellent communication skills. **(B)** The common image of the scientist as a lonely white-coated person muttering to him or herself alone in the lab is in fact far removed from reality. **(C)** According to Brenner [1], a good scientist also has the ability to “effectively discuss and disseminate” his or her results. **(D)** Research involves sharing findings in presentations at conferences and in “academic journals” [1]. **(E)** It is essential for a scientist to share findings with peers, so as to benefit and learn from the scientist community. **(F)** Scientist exploration confined within an isolated lab, is no more than a hobby. **(G)** An effective scientist must be actively involved in the scientist community and should know how to communicate with others and listen to others’ ideas. | A. **Topic sentence**  B. **Elaboration**  C. **Citation**  D. **Connecting sentence** that expands on Brenner’s citation by giving examples of “discuss and disseminate”.  E and F. **Elaboration**: further explanation why communication skills are important.  G. **Concluding sentence** |

For more help, consult the ELC Referencing Guides: <http://elc.polyu.edu.hk/referencing/>

**Integrating a citation into a paragraph (IEEE)**

Sample 2:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| (A) Another factor is that effective scientists should be unbiased. (B) Data should be collected and analysed in a very rigorous and honest manner. (C) According to McMorrow [2], an important distinction to make in science is the difference between fact and opinion. (D) **That is to say,** a successful scientist should perform the research cycle without any personal emotion, personal beliefs or pre-conceived ideas. (E) The researcher should ensure that his or her hypotheses, data sources and collection manners as well as analysis methods are as objective as possible before concluding the study. (F) If a researcher connects pre-conceived ideas to their study, they may be thinking too narrowly to be able to report the most accurate finding. | Identify the different functions of the sentences here: |

Sample 3:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| (A) The most important element for a scientist to succeed is creativity. (B) If scientists are knowledgeable and skillful but not creative, they cannot think beyond textbook theory nor can they generate new ideas or new hypotheses. (C) As Chen [3] conveys, “curiosity, imagination, exploration, critical thinking, creative writing and metaphor” are as fundamental to scientific discovery and research as they are to poetry. (D) **This means that** qualities usually attributed to artists are also very important to a scientist. (E) Creativity and knowledge, in fact, permeates every stage of the research cycle. (F) From the emergence of the research question to the research design, the ability to think creatively is crucial to many new discoveries. (G) An example to highlight this process is … | Identify the different functions of the sentences here: |

**NOTE:** **That is to say, this means that, therefore, this shows that, this clearly demonstrates that, this supports the view that, this is a significant example of** … are expressions which can help you write your connecting sentences.

**Non-integral citation:** It should be emphasized that “curiosity, imagination, exploration, critical thinking, creative writing and metaphor” are as fundamental to scientific discovery and research as they are to poetry [3].

For more help, watch this video: <http://youtu.be/2Tt5zqkf4HM>

|  |
| --- |
| **Your citation must be ‘grammatically well integrated’ (IEEE)** |

**Choose the most grammatical option to complete the following sentences:**

|  |
| --- |
| **1. For example, Barry et al. [4]** |

|  |
| --- |
| a. argues that the happy planet index is far more relevant as an indication of quality of life than the GDP, which only provides a very “crude reflection of the general living standards of a particular country”.  b. they argue that the happy planet index is far more relevant as an indication of quality of life than the GDP, which only provides a very “crude reflection of the general living standards of a particular country”.  c. argue that the happy planet index is far more relevant as an indication of quality of life than the GDP, which only provides a very “crude reflection of the general living standards of a particular country”. |

|  |
| --- |
| * Explain why the other options are incorrect. |

|  |
| --- |
| **2. According to Medez [5],** |

|  |
| --- |
| a. he noted that “acai berry juice has lower levels of antioxidant than blueberry”, and black cherry juice, but more than “orange and apple juice”.  b. “acai berry juice has lower levels of antioxidant than blueberry”, and black cherry juice, but more than “orange and apple juice”.  c. the fact that “acai berry juice has lower levels of antioxidant than blueberry”, and black cherry juice, but more than “orange and apple juice”. |

|  |
| --- |
| * Explain why the other options are incorrect. |

|  |
| --- |
| **3. As Cheng [6]** |

|  |
| --- |
| a. maintains that “he fertility rate is strongly affected by “environment and pollution issues”.  b. she maintains that the fertility rate is strongly affected by “environment and pollution issues”.  c. maintains, the fertility rate is strongly affected by “environment and pollution issues”. |

|  |
| --- |
| * Explain why the other options are incorrect. |

For more help, watch this video: <http://youtu.be/2Tt5zqkf4HM>

**Assessment 1: Paragraph starters and using a wide range of vocabulary ELC1013**

**Paragraph starters**

You should have a clear topic sentence in each of your body paragraphs. It is also important that have good paragraph starters. Be careful about using ‘numbers’ to organise paragraphs.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Ordinary paragraph starters ☹** | **Improved paragraph starters ☺** |
| * The first problem / cause / impact is … * The second problem / cause / impact … * The first solution is to … * The second solution is to … | * One of the main problems caused by… * One of the major impacts of… * As well as the (*state first problem*), another issue triggered by / another consequence of … is… * To solve the matter of (*state first problem*), … * To address the challenge of (*state second problem*), … |

**Paragraph hooks**

**Link the ideas between paragraphs.**

*e.g. if your* ***first*** *body paragraph is about there being a “large amount and diverse range of material available online”, your* ***second*** *paragraph could start like this:*

As well as the quantity and variety of sources accessible online, another issue triggered by learning online is the limited chances for some learners to improve their social skills.

*The phrase “quantity and variety of sources accessible online” links your second body paragraph to your first body paragraph. It is a* ***paragraph hook****.*

**Use a wide range of vocabulary**

*In the examples in the table above, only ‘problem’ and ‘solution’ were used in the ordinary paragraph starters, while vocabulary such as ‘problem’, ‘issue’, ‘matter’, ‘challenge’, ‘solve’ and ‘address’ were used in the improved version.*

*While repeating key words can improve essay organisation, it is also important to use a wide variety of vocabulary.*

Other words for **problem**: issue, obstacle, dilemma, complication

Other words for **solution**: answer, resolution

Other words for **solve**: address, tackle