

# About this lesson citing textual evidence

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Citing Textual Evidence: A Comprehensive Guide\*\*

### Introduction

Citing textual evidence is a crucial skill in academic writing and research. It allows readers to verify the accuracy and credibility of information, and it helps writers avoid plagiarism by giving credit to the original source. This article explores the concept of citing textual evidence, provides strategies for teaching it, outlines its objectives, and offers examples and definitions.

### What is Citing Textual Evidence?

Citing textual evidence involves identifying and referencing information directly from a source to support an assertion or claim. It includes providing the source's author, title, and specific location where the information can be found.

### How to Teach Citing Text Evidence

To effectively teach citing text evidence, consider the following strategies:

- **Explicit Instruction:** Explain the purpose and importance of citing evidence, provide examples, and model the process.
- **Guided Practice:** Provide students with texts and ask them to identify and cite specific evidence.
- **Independent Practice:** Assign tasks where students independently cite evidence from various sources.
- **Feedback and Revision:** Offer regular feedback on students' work and guide them in refining their citing skills.

## Objectives for Citing Textual Evidence

- To support claims and assertions with valid and credible information.
- To avoid plagiarism by giving credit to the original source.
- To demonstrate a thorough understanding of the source material.
- To enhance the credibility and reliability of academic writing.

## What I Learned About Textual Evidence

Through my research and practice, I have learned that:

- Textual evidence is essential for establishing the validity of claims.
- Citing evidence accurately and consistently is crucial for academic integrity.
- Various citation styles exist, and it's important to adhere to specific guidelines.
- Strong textual evidence can strengthen arguments and persuade readers.

## 5 Examples of Textual Evidence

1. Direct quotations from the original source
2. Paraphrased statements that accurately convey information from the source
3. Summaries of key points from the source
4. Statistical data or empirical findings from the source
5. Illustrations or images from the source

## Cite Evidence Example

In a research paper on the impact of social media on mental health, the writer states: "Studies have shown that excessive social media use can lead to increased anxiety and depression." To support this claim, they cite a specific study by Smith and Jones (2022) that found a significant correlation between social media usage and symptoms of mental distress.

## How to Show Textual Evidence

Textual evidence can be shown in various ways, including:

- **In-text citations:** Parenthetical references within the text, such as (Smith and Jones, 2022).
- **Endnotes or footnotes:** Detailed references placed at the end of a section or page.
- **Reference list or bibliography:** A complete list of sources used in the document.

## Why Do We Need to Cite Evidence?

We need to cite evidence to:

- Provide credibility to our arguments
- Avoid plagiarism
- Acknowledge the contributions of others
- Enable readers to verify the accuracy of our claims

## How to In-Text Citations

- Use parentheses to enclose the author's last name and the year of publication.
- For direct quotations, include the page number after the year.
- For paraphrased information, omit the page number.
- For multiple authors, list the last names of the first two authors followed by "et al." (Latin for "and others").

## What is Evidence with In-Text Citation?

Evidence with in-text citation is information taken from a source that is directly referenced within the text using an in-text citation.

## What is a Textual Citation?

A textual citation is a reference to a specific passage or information within a source. It typically includes the author's name, the year of publication, and the specific location where the information can be found.

## Best Definition of Textual Evidence

The best definition of textual evidence is: Specific information taken directly from a source that supports an assertion or claim and is properly cited to give credit to the original author.

## 4 Types of Textual Evidence

1. Direct evidence: Exact words or phrases from the source
2. Indirect evidence: Paraphrased information that conveys the source's meaning
3. Inferred evidence: Conclusions drawn based on information from the source
4. Counter-evidence: Evidence that contradicts or challenges a claim

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