

Signal-phrase verbs

INTRODUCTORY VERBS

Says

The verb introduces the quotation as information.

adds	mentions
believes	notes
clarifies	observes
comments	offers
describes	points out
discusses	remarks
emphasizes	reports
examines	reveals
explains	says
explores	states
identifies	writes

Agrees

The verb indicates that the source agrees with another source or with the position you are advancing.

accepts	concurs
agrees	parallels
assents	supports

Yields

The source agrees that a conflicting point is valid.

acknowledges	concedes
admits	grants
agrees	recognizes
allows	

Argues in favor

The verb indicates that the source is providing evidence or reasons for a position.

argues	indicates
asserts	insists
contends	maintains
demonstrates	proposes
holds	recommends
illustrates	shows

Argues against

The verb indicates that the source is providing evidence against a position.

attacks	disputes
contradicts	objects
criticizes	opposes
denies	rebutts
differs	refutes
disagrees	

States controversially

The source makes a statement that you are skeptical about (be careful of your tone if you use these).

alleges
assumes
claims
purports

Implies

The source presents information either tentatively or indirectly.

implies
insinuates
proposes
suggests

Continues

You continue to refer to or quote the source.

adds
also notes
continues
goes on to say
states further

Concludes

The source draws a conclusion from previous discussion.

concludes
decides
determines
finds