

Signal Verbs

Signal verbs are those verbs that introduce a quotation or an idea directly related to a source. See underlined below.

- The author concludes, “Half of all matter is dark matter.”
- Jones wonders why few people consider the causes of poverty.

Try to avoid using the same verbs over and over. *States* and *says* are 2 signal verbs that are overuse. Below is a list of possible verbs. You might also check the thesaurus for ideas.

acknowledges
allows
assumes
claims
concur
declares
discusses
emphasizes
implies
objects
opposes
proposes
replies
reveals
suggests
wants to
writes

advises
answers
believes
concludes
confirms
describes
disputes
expresses
interprets
observes
points to
recognizes
reports
says
supports
wishes

agrees
asserts
charges
considers
criticizes
disagrees
explains
holds
lists
offers
presents
regards
responds
states
thinks
wonders

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