

Transparent Stories

Citations in Daily Life and Academic Texts

Why do we cite sources in daily life?

Purpose *Why* do we choose to cite?

Audience To *whom* are we addressing?

Context *When* and *where* do we cite?

Form *How* do we cite?

- Direct quotation
- Summary
- Images
- Paraphrase

Must be cited

Pop Quiz #1

“How many acres of land does the MIT campus cover in Cambridge?”

1 acre = 4,046.86 sq meters

4,840 sq yards

Source: official MIT website
(<http://web.mit.edu/facts/faqs.html>)

2014

MIT FACTS

SEARCH GO

[+Show All] [-Hide]

[+] **About MIT**

- MIT at a Glance**
- Mission
- Origins & Leadership
- Faculty & Staff
- Alumni
- MIT & the Community
- Publishing
- Campus Map

[+] **Admission, Tuition & Aid**

[+] **Academics**

[+] **Campus Life**

MIT AT A GLANCE

History

Incorporated by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts on April 10, 1861

Motto

Mens et manus—"Mind and Hand"

Campus

168 acres in Cambridge, Massachusetts
18 student residences

Citing Sources in a Text

In-text citation (APA format)

MIT's campus covers 168 acres of land in Cambridge, Massachusetts (Massachusetts Institute of Technology, 2016).

Full reference citation (APA format)

Massachusetts Institute of Technology. (2016, January). "MIT at a Glance." Retrieved October 1, 2016, <http://web.mit.edu/facts/faqs.html>.

Exercise: Signal Phrases

According to the MIT website, the Cambridge campus spans 168 acres of land (Massachusetts Institute of Technology, 2016).

How many variations of this sentence (no matter how slight) can you write?

Note: each sentence must reference both the information and source from which it came.

Pop Quiz #2

Wearable technology can be both liberating and constrictive. How does Mat Honan refer to himself while wearing Google Glass?

Pop Quiz #2

Wearable technology can be both liberating and constrictive. How does Mat Honan refer to himself while wearing Google Glass?

Honan, Matt. (2013). "I, Glasshole: My Year With Google Glass." *Wired*. Retrieved from [http:// www.wired.com/2013/12/glasshole/](http://www.wired.com/2013/12/glasshole/)

Exercise: Introducing a Source

“And here’s the thing I am utterly convinced of: Google Glass and its ilk are coming. They are racing toward us, ready to change society, again.”

– Mat Honan, senior staff writer, *WIRED*

How many sentence variations can you create?

- Directly quote, paraphrase, or summarize Honan
- Include his name and title
- Signal phrase

Buddy Brainstorm: Tricky Situations

“I found a valuable piece of information in an article, but the specific information was actually quoted from another source. Which source do I cite?”

“I read an article to gain useful background information for my topic. It certainly influenced my understanding and approach, but I didn’t end up using any specific ideas from the source in my essay. Should I list the source anywhere?”

Transparency ~~=~~ Invisibility

Your own voice should drive the essay

- Don't bury yourself under other people's ideas and words
- Resist the temptation to adopt the voice of your source(s)
 - “In the 1980's, anecdotes and metropolitan mythology arose to publicize what had come to be known as the “Magic Credit Card” where the emissary of the plastic credit could mandate extravagance spontaneously.”

***Interpret* cited material for the reader**

- What does the quote/information/idea mean?
- How does the quote/information/idea connect to your thesis?

Positive Transparency

Avoiding Plagiarism (negative)

VS

Being Actively Transparent (**positive**)

MIT OpenCourseWare
<https://ocw.mit.edu>

21W.035 Science Writing and New Media: Communicating Science to the Public
Fall 2016

For information about citing these materials or our Terms of Use, visit: <https://ocw.mit.edu/terms>.