



APSU Writing Center

Citing Sources

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Resource: *The LB Brief Handbook*, 5th edition

- **Citing** is giving credit for another person's work you use in your papers, whether it be graphics, tables, exact quotations, etc. Failing to cite, whether deliberately or unintentionally, constitutes plagiarism.

- **What sources must you cite?**
 - Ideas that are not your own
 - Researched information
 - Statistics, graphics, images, etc. you did not personally create or compile
 - Direct quotes
 - Paraphrased or summarized information

- **What sources do you not need to cite?**
 - One's own independent material:
 - observations
 - thoughts
 - compilations of facts
 - experimental results

 - Common knowledge:
 - standard information, like major facts of history, dates, and corresponding major events
 - **Note:** You **must** cite a particular historian's interpretation/analysis of events, as it is their own idea.

 - Common sense most people know (**example:** Humans must breathe in and out to survive.)