

Reporting Verbs

Verbs for describing	
State	– to indicate the source presents something as a fact
Explain	– to indicate the source gives details of how or why something happens
Argue	– to indicate the source presents a position on an issue
Point out	- to indicate the source presents something as a fact
Reject	– to indicate that a source disagrees with a position
Discuss	– to indicate the issue or topic that the source examines
Mention	– to indicate that a source deals very briefly with an issue
Note	- to indicate that a source deals very briefly with an issue
Evaluate	– to indicate that the source makes a judgment regarding an issue
Conclude	– to indicate the conclusion your source reaches
Suggest	– to indicate the source thinks something is possibly true
Emphasize	– to indicate the source's most important point

Reporting Verbs

Verbs to add critical voice	
Claim	– to indicate that your source has stated something as fact (and you may disagree)
Contend	– to indicate that you disagree with your source's position
Assume	– to indicate that the source has treated something as a fact but you believe it is not
Reveal	– to indicate that the information was previously hidden or not widely known
Allege	– to indicate a source makes a claim without proof
Imply	– to indicate that the source says something indirectly
Exaggerate	– to indicate that the source places too much emphasis on something

Reporting Verbs

Verbs related to research:

Study

Investigate e.g. Wilson (2012) investigated bullying in the workplace.

Research

Examine

Explore

Verbs describing how the writer does something:

State – to indicate the source presents something as a fact

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Suggest – to indicate the source thinks something is possibly true

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Verbs used to add your critical voice:

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Contend – to indicate that you disagree with your source's position

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Exaggerate – to indicate that the source places too much emphasis on something