**VERBS TO INTRODUCE QUOTATIONS AND PARAPHRASES**

In an academic paper where you need to refer to the ideas of other writers and researchers in your field, you will need to introduce their ideas to the readers using **reporting verbs**. The most commonly used verbs for this purpose tend to be in these forms : “X states that....”, “Y says that....”, or “It is said that....” etc. However, these are **not** the **only** verbs used to refer to the ideas of other writers. To prevent the over-use of the above examples, you can choose from the following list of reference verbs. This list has been arranged in alphabetical order. We recommend that you check the dictionary for their meaning and usage

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| acknowledge  add  admit  advise  advocate  agree  analyze  argue  assert  believe  claim  comment  compare  conclude  confirm  concentrate  continue  criticize  deal with  define  demonstrate  deny  describe  develop  disagree  discuss  dispute  distinguish  emphasize  endeavour | examine  expand on  explain  explore  express  feel  find  form  focus on  give example  go on to say  identify  imply  include  incorporate  indicate  insist  interpret  introduce  judge  justify  link  list  locate  maintain  negate  note  object to  observe  offer oppose | point out  provide  put forward  question  quote  refer to  refute  reject  report  represent  respond  reveal  see  separate  show  stand for  state  stress  suggest  support  talk about  think  tend to  treat  try to  use  underline  underscore  view  write |

**Categorized Lists:**

Below is a categorized version of the above list, though it does not cover all the possible words. You need to add some more to these lists as you encounter them in your own reading. It is **recommended that you check the dictionary for their meaning and use.**

**Verbs and other expressions neutral in meaning :**

according to comment describe note state

acknowledge define discuss point out

**Verbs that indicate the author’s position on an issue:**

argue claim emphasize recommend suggest

assert defend maintain reject support

challenge doubt put forward refute

**Verbs that indicate what the author’s thinking:**

assume consider recognize

believe hypothesize think

**Verbs that indicate that the author is showing something:**

demonstrate illustrate present

explain indicate show

**Verbs that indicate that the author is proving something:**

confirm prove validate

establish substantiate verify

**Verbs that indicate what the author did:**

analyze estimate examine investigate study

apply evaluate find observe

**Verbs and expressions to include slight uncertainty when drawing conclusions:**

When reporting a particular academic study, experimentation or observation, researchers need to be very careful about the kind of language to use in order to convey realistic and true messages to the academic circles. This is why they often need to be very clear about the level of certainty they can adopt about the conclusions and observations. The best and most frequent way to do this is to use some of the constructions below in your language. We recommend that you check the dictionary for their meaning and use.

**Modals** : may, might, can, could, would, should

**Verbs**: seem to, appear to, believe, assume, suggest, estimate, tend to, think, indicate

**Adjectives and adverbs**: possible, probable, likely, unlikely, perhaps, possibly, probably