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RESEARCH PAPER VOCABULARY

Audience: Who you are writing to and for; the reader of your paper. Your audience determines your **purpose**, which is the reason for writing your paper.

PERSUADE & INFORM

Research: The process by which you go about finding information on your writing topic AND the information itself.

SOME THING (**Source:** The books, magazines, and websites you read for and use in your research writing. Sources contain all the outside information you gather before and while you write. NOTE: You will not necessarily use all your sources in your paper.

VE CREDIT **Common Knowledge:** Information that all educated people have about the world and ideas. For example, it is common knowledge that the president of the United States is George W. Bush and that the Declaration of Independence was signed in 1776.

OR YOUR IDEAS **Primary Source:** A direct, firsthand collection of information you gather yourself. For example, an interview you conduct personally with someone you know.

Secondary Source: A source that reports, analyzes, discusses, reviews, or otherwise deals with the work of someone else. MOST of your research will be from secondary sources.

Documentation/Citation: The acknowledgement of someone else's words and ideas (your source) used in any piece of writing by giving full and accurate information about the person whose words are used and where those words were found. The goal of providing this information is allowing your audience the access to your original source. This is WHAT you give your reader.

Citing/Documenting Your Sources: The process by which you provide your source's information. This is HOW you give it.

In-Text Citation/Documentation: The information you provide in the text of your paper itself providing access to your source. This includes the author's name and page number from your source.

First Attribution: The first time you use a source's information in your paper, you will introduce the author with credentials and information letting your reader know that your source is reliable.

Bibliography: Your bibliography is the list of all the books, magazines, and websites you read while doing your research. You will not necessarily include all these sources in your final paper. It is your WORKING list.

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Works Cited: The final list of all your sources that you actually did use in your paper. It is an alphabetized list of complete information about your sources included separately at the end of your paper so your reader can easily find the sources you used if necessary.

Plagiarism: The act of using someone else's words or ideas in your writing without giving that other person credit with a citation and works cited entry. It is considered an act of stealing and academic dishonesty, is severely looked down upon, and is frequently punished with failure of courses and other academic disciplinary measures.

Quotation: Using the exact words from a source, enclosing them in quotation marks, and including documentation.

Paraphrasing: Putting the words or ideas of a source directly in your own words and including documentation. Paraphrases are used for sentences or short passages and usually are just as long or longer than the original source.

Summarizing: Taking the information of a longer passage in a source, condensing it into its main ideas, putting it in your own words, and including documentation. Summaries are usually much shorter than the original source.

Reliable Sources: Sources that are the work of a person with appropriate credentials, that appear in respected publications or other medium, that are current, and that are well reasoned.

Climactic Order: An essay structure that provides its topics in order of least important to most important.

Emergency Order: An essay structure that provides its topics in order of most important to least important.