

The Synthesis Essay

WHAT IS A SYNTHESIS?

A synthesis is a written discussion that draws on one or more sources. It follows that your ability to write syntheses depends on your ability to infer relationships among sources - essays, articles, fiction, and also non-written sources, such as lectures, interviews, and observations. This process is nothing new for you, since you infer relationships all the time - say, between something you've read in the newspaper and something you've seen for yourself, or between the teaching styles of your favorite and least favorite instructors. In fact, if you've written research papers, you've already written syntheses. In an academic synthesis, you make explicit the relationships that you have inferred among separate sources.

Clearly, before you're in a position to draw relationships between two or more sources, you must understand what those sources say; in other words, you must be able to summarize these sources. It will frequently be helpful for your readers if you provide at least partial summaries of sources in your synthesis essays. At the same time, you must go beyond summary to make judgments - judgments based, of course, on your critical reading of your sources - as you have practiced in your reading responses and in class discussions. You should already have drawn some conclusions about the quality and validity of these sources; and you should know how much you agree or disagree with the points made in your sources and the reasons for your agreement or disagreement.

Further, you must go beyond the critique of individual sources to determine the relationship among them. Is the information in source B, for example, an extended illustration of the generalizations in source A? Would it be useful to compare and contrast source C with source B? Having read and considered sources A, B, and C, can you infer something else - D (not a source, but your own idea)?

Because a synthesis is based on two or more sources, you will need to be selective when choosing information from each. It would be neither possible nor desirable, for instance, to discuss in a ten-page paper on the battle of Wounded Knee every point that the authors of two books make about their subject. ***What you as a writer must do is select the ideas and information from each source that best allow you to achieve your purpose.***

PURPOSE

Your purpose in reading source materials and then in drawing upon them to write your own material is often reflected in the wording of an assignment. For example, your assignment may ask that you evaluate a text, argue a position on a topic, explain cause and effect relationships, or compare and contrast items. While you might use the same sources in writing an argumentative essay as your classmate uses in writing a comparison/contrast essay, you will make different uses of those sources based on the different purposes of the assignments. What you find worthy of detailed analysis in Source A may be mentioned only in passing by your classmate. Many times, your purpose will be dictated by the assignment.

USING YOUR SOURCES

Your purpose determines not only what parts of your sources you will use but also how you will relate them to one another. Since the very essence of synthesis is the combining of information and ideas, you must have some basis on which to combine them. It follows that the better able you are to discover such relationships, the better able you will be to use your sources in writing syntheses. Your purpose in writing (based on your assignment) will determine how you relate your source materials to one another. Your purpose in writing determines which sources you use, which parts of them you use, at which points in your essay you use them, and in what manner you relate them to one another.

How To Write A Synthesis Paper

R Pring



How To Write A Synthesis Paper:

How to Write Anything John J. Ruszkiewicz, Jay T. Dolmage, 2012-01-10 How to Write Anything supports students wherever they are in their writing process Designed to be clear and simple the Guide lays out focused advice for writing common academic and real world genres while the Reference covers the range of writing skills that students needs as they work across genres and disciplines Genre based readings including narratives reports arguments evaluations proposals and rhetorical causal and literary analyses are sure to engage students and inspire ideas The result is everything you need to teach composition in a flexible highly visual guide reference and reader This new edition gives students more support for academic writing more help choosing and working with genres and more emphasis on multimodal composing Read the preface Order E Library for How to Write Anything Second Edition packaged with How to Write Anything Second Edition paperback using ISBN 13 978 1 4576 2265 6 How to Write Anything Second Edition spiral bound using ISBN 13 978 1 4576 2283 0 How to Write Anything with Readings Second Edition paperback using ISBN 13 978 1 4576 2264 9 *Writing and Reading Connections* Zoi A. Philippakos, Steve Graham, 2022-12-21 Writing skills are essential for success in the 21st century school and workplace but most classrooms devote far more time to reading instruction with writing often addressed in isolation or excluded In this insightful professional development resource and text leading researchers discuss why and how to integrate writing and reading instruction in grades K 12 and beyond Contributors explore how to harness writing reading connections to support learning in such areas as phonics and spelling vocabulary understanding genre and text structure and self regulated strategy development as well as across content areas and disciplines Special considerations in teaching emergent bilingual students and struggling literacy learners are described User friendly features include guiding questions classroom examples and action questions that help teachers translate the research and concepts into practice An NCTQ Exemplary Text for Reading Instruction **Teaching Writing for Academic Purposes to Multilingual Students** John Bitchener, Neomy Storch, Rosemary Wette, 2017-04-07 Pushing past the typical genre and elements approach this text explains how to integrate children s literature into and across the curriculum in effective purposeful ways The materials and practical strategies focus on issues that impact children s lives building from students personal experiences and cultural knowledge to using language to question the everyday world analyze popular culture and media understand how power relationships are socially constructed and consider actions to take that promote social justice **The New Roadmap for Creating Online Courses** Catherine R. Barber, Janet K. McCollum, Wendy L. Maboudian, 2020-06-11 Are you ready to create an online course but do not know where to start Do your online learners seem isolated and disengaged Are your online courses effective enough for the current competitive market Whether you are an instructor instructional designer or part of a team this interactive workbook will help you create effective online courses to engage your learners Key features of the workbook include integrating cognitive social and emotional aspects of learning explaining the central role of self reflection

dialogue and realistic application the incorporation of themes scenarios and characters to provide relevant and meaningful learning experiences and the use of semiotics for inclusion of diverse learners As you journey through the course creation process in this workbook you will expand your ideas and discover new possibilities for the students taking your online course

Writing That Makes Sense, 2nd Edition David S. Hogsette, 2019-11-05 The second edition of *Writing That Makes Sense* takes students through the fundamentals of the writing process and explores the basic steps of critical thinking Drawing upon over twenty years of experience teaching college composition and professional writing David S Hogsette combines relevant writing pedagogy and practical assignments with the basics of critical thinking to provide students with step by step guides for successful academic writing in a variety of rhetorical modes New in the second edition Expanded discussion of how to write effective thesis statements for informative persuasive evaluative and synthesis essays including helpful thesis statement templates Extensive templates introducing students to conventions of academic discourse including integrating outside sources interacting with other writers ideas and dialoguing with multiple perspectives Examples of academic writing from different disciplines illustrating essay titles abstracts thesis statements introductions conclusions and voice Expanded discussion of voice in academic writing including an exploration of active and passive voice constructions in different disciplines and tips on how to edit for clarity A new chapter on writing in the disciplines Updated sample student papers New readings with examples of opposing views and multiple perspectives *The Art and Architecture of Academic Writing* Patricia Prinz, Birna Arnbjörnsdóttir, 2021-08-15 This book is a bridge to confident academic writing for advanced non native English users It emphasizes depth over breadth through mastery of core writing competencies and strategies which apply to most academic disciplines and genres Tailored to students in EMI programs the content was piloted and revised during a longitudinal writing study The innovative approach prepares students to write for the academic community through the dual lenses of Art developing a writer s voice through choices in language style and topics and Architecture mastering norms of academic language genre and organization The user friendly text maximizes time for writing practice and production by avoiding lengthy readings Part 1 builds skills and confidence in writing by focusing on assignments that do not require research Part 2 applies newly mastered principles skills and strategies to research based writing Students learn to incorporate thesis research and evidence into a process for academic writing by following the AWARE framework Arranging to write Writing Assessing Revising and Editing **Writing for College and Beyond** James Rovira, 2019-04-29 *Writing for College and Beyond* prepares students for their future college classes by covering the strategies common to most college writing In the process of being prepared for college writing however students are also taught chapter by chapter how these writing skills will carry forward into their future professional lives beyond college One of the least expensive first year writing textbooks on the market the text isn t inflated with material that most instructors and students won t use and several exercises encourage students to use either provided web or YouTube links as texts supporting their practice for longer

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designed to facilitate self study Annotated examples from journal articles writing frames and simple explanations help you to understand language style and organizational features and to apply the knowledge directly in your own writing

Metacognition, Self-Regulation and Writing Dyanne Escorcia, 2024-06-26 Students difficulties in producing texts that meet the requirements of academic writing are a recurring concern for teaching staff and those responsible for university courses Various initiatives are currently being taken mainly at undergraduate level to help students improve the quality of their writing Research into metacognitive processes and the self regulation of learning can be used to support the design of these writing support systems particularly by providing a better understanding of the students difficulties This book reviews the concepts of metacognition and self regulation in relation to writing processes It analyses the metacognitive components involved in text production their links with successful writing and their individual and contextual determinants It completes this analysis by drawing on the teaching and assessment of writing in higher education All of these elements are articulated around a multifactorial modeling of the learning and teaching of academic writing

Reviewing **How To Write A Synthesis Paper**: Unlocking the Spellbinding Force of Linguistics

In a fast-paced world fueled by information and interconnectivity, the spellbinding force of linguistics has acquired newfound prominence. Its capacity to evoke emotions, stimulate contemplation, and stimulate metamorphosis is really astonishing. Within the pages of "**How To Write A Synthesis Paper**," an enthralling opus penned by a highly acclaimed wordsmith, readers embark on an immersive expedition to unravel the intricate significance of language and its indelible imprint on our lives. Throughout this assessment, we shall delve into the book's central motifs, appraise its distinctive narrative style, and gauge its overarching influence on the minds of its readers.

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