

# The Writing Center @ KUMC

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## Verbs of Attribution

When writing a research paper, verbs of attribution are used to introduce quotes and paraphrases, or information from various sources. Different verbs of attribution can add variety to research writing. For instance, instead of using “said,” the most common verb of attribution, you might try “found” or “reported,” to name just a couple.

When choosing which verb of attribution to use, however, remember to be careful. Each verb has implied meanings, and many are not interchangeable. For example, it is different to “argue” something than it is to “suggest” it. Pay attention to subtleties of meaning. If in doubt, consult a dictionary.

### Verbs of Attribution – Agreement:

Affirms	Agrees	Concludes
Concurs with	Confirms	Echoes
Supports	Verifies	

### Verbs of Attribution – Disagreement:

Counters	Criticizes	Denies
Disagrees	Disputes	Objects
Opposes	Refutes	Rejects

### Verbs of Attribution – General:

Accepts	Considers	Maintains
Acknowledges	Contends	Mentions
Addresses	Decides	Notes
Adds	Declares	Observes
Advises	Defines	Offers
Allows	Describes	Points out
Analyzes	Discusses	Proposes
Answers	Echoes	Questions
Asks	Emphasizes	Realizes
Asserts	Exclaims	Reasons
Assumes	Explains	Remarks
Assures	Expresses	Replies
Argues	Finds	Reports
Believes	Grants	Responds
Categorizes	Holds	Reveals
Challenges	Hypothesizes	Shows
Charges	Illustrates	Speculates
Cites	Implies	States
Claims	Indicates	Suggests
Comments	Insists	Supposes
Compares	Interprets	Warns
Concedes	Introduces	Wonders
Concludes	Lists	Write