In a **RESEARCH PAPER**, knowing how to effectively integrate sources is extremely important. Being able to integrate sources is important because it helps you:

- Bolster your point with the credibility or reputation of the source.
- Identify others’ opinions, theories, and personal explanations.
- Present assertions of fact that are open to dispute.
- Present statistics.
- Establish your ethos as a good, reliable scholar/researcher.
- Let readers know where to find information on your topic.

**TIPS FOR USING DIRECT QUOTES**

1. **Always have a good reason for using a direct quote.** Otherwise, paraphrase or summarize.

2. **Do not allow quotes to speak for themselves.** Your research paper is ultimately about communicating **YOUR IDEAS**. Your research simply helps prove or support those ideas. So, you should not just string other people’s ideas together giving quote after quote.

3. **Always make sure you provide an analysis of the quote.** Show your readers that you understand how the quote relates to your ideas by analyzing its significance.

4. **Do not use quotes as padding.** This is related to tips 1, 2 and 3. Very long quotes will require long explanations of their significance. If quotes do not have adequate analysis, readers will feel that you don’t have a grasp on what that quote means, and they also might feel that you are using quotes as “filler” to take up space.