

4. Do not give one citation at the end of a long paragraph. The reader has no way of knowing if the whole paragraph or the last sentence is the source's idea.
5. When in doubt, CITE YOUR SOURCE!

Beware of unacceptable paraphrasing!

Many students think that if they rearrange the words or replace them with synonyms that they

Although modern readers would like to know more about the people accused of witchcraft, unfortunately often all that survives is their appearance in the trial transcripts.(Godbeer, 129) Historian Richard Godbeer describes it as a “brief and dramatic appearance in the records” before they are “returned to obscurity.” Their life before and after is lost to us. This might even include whether the condemned was actually killed unless they were “acquitted and then put on trial again at some later date.” (Godbeer, 129-130)

Note that this is acceptable because it uses the writers own words, gives credit to the source, and indicates what part of the material was taken directly from the source with quotation marks and citation.

Common knowledge

Common knowledge is information that is generally known by most people. For example, it is common knowledge that George Washington was the first president of the United States. This does not need a citation. That George Washington was the only president to be unanimously elected by the Electoral College is not common knowledge and needs a citation.

If you are in doubt if something is common knowledge try asking yourself: Did I know this information before I took this class? Would my neighbor know this inf