In order to make an in-text citation complete, it needs to be “packaged,” that is, it should be both introduced and discussed. Although there are a variety of ways to package citations, you can begin by using the templates below. Then, look at research papers or other texts with citations to see how a source is brought into the text— and discussed.

Copy and attach this chart to your research log (5 times) for at least five sources.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Rhetorical and/or historical context**: Introduce the source, the author’s name, and comments about the author. |  |
| **Citation**: Provide a paraphrase or direct quotation. (Begin with a verb and end with a parenthetical citation.) |  |
| **Citation’s importance**: Comment on why this part of the text is important, relevant to the prompt, or significant in some other way. |  |

The benefit of organizing your cited information this way helps to make sure you:

\_\_ Vetted the sources

\_\_ Gathered your data

\_\_ Properly analyzed the cited material

\_\_ Introduce the quote/paraphrase and follow it up with a connection to your own writing

\_\_ Can easily transfer the text into your own essay

*Here is an example of how you would fill it out:*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Rhetorical and/or historical context**: Introduce the source, the author’s name, and comments about the author. | In his article, “Global Warming Is a Serious Threat to Humanity’s Future,” Mark Lynas, the author of High Tide: News from a Warming World, |
| **Citation**: Provide a paraphrase or direct quotation. (Begin with a verb and end with a parenthetical citation.) | argues that in other parts of the world, flooding, drought, and sea-level rise are forcing people to leave their homes, creating environmental refugees (2008). |
| **Citation’s importance**: Comment on why this part of the text is important, relevant to the prompt, or significant in some other way. | It is important for us to consider this point because mass displacement of human life could have severe consequences for communities all around the globe. |