“HAMBURGERS”

USING “HAMBURGERS” TO INTEGRATE SOURCES IN A PARAGRAPH
In many of the papers you write, you are required to use **outside sources**.

Whether you quote, paraphrase, or summarize the source material, you need to include three main elements in order to insert it clearly and smoothly into a paragraph:

- **an introduction to the source material,**
- **the material itself (quote, paraphrase, or summary),**
- **and your discussion of the material.**
You can use the image of the hamburger to remember these 3 elements:

**ELEMENTS**

- Introduction
- Material
- Discussion
The “top bun” is the signal phrase that introduces the source material.

- Include author’s name, the author’s credentials, title of the book or article, and a brief preview of the quote.
- Select a verb, in present tense, that matches the author’s intent or purpose. Introductory words include the following:

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The “meat” of the hamburger is the quote itself (or your paraphrase or summary of the source material).

- Use quotation marks only when you borrow the exact words of your source.
- After the quote, cite your source; for example, if your source is a print source, put the page number of the source material in parentheses.
- Place a period after the parenthetical citation.
The “bottom bun” is your commentary on the source material.

- Explain the source material, linking it to your main point. (Discuss the quote in relation to the point you are making.)
TRY TO AVOID...

- DROPPED QUOTES
  - A dropped quote is just “dropped into your paper”—out of the blue, unannounced, without a signal phrase (“tag”) and without follow-up commentary.
  - Never use “dropped quotes”!
  - Whether you quote, paraphrase, or summarize, be sure to create a complete “hamburger.”

![Image showing the parts of a hamburger and the components of a quote with a happy face and a sad face]
In your top bun, your introduction to the quote, include the author’s name and credentials, the title of the essay or book, and a preview of what the quote is about.

“Place the quote in quotation marks if you have borrowed source material word-for-word (verbatim)” (324).

Place the page number in parentheses, after the quote and before the period.

In the bottom bun, discuss the quote: How does it relate to the point you are making? How does it help prove your point? (Be sure your reader understands why you have used the quote.)