

Research Paper: Notecards

Notecard Directions:

- ✓ Use 3 x 5 lined note cards
- ✓ Create a bib card for each source **use different color than regular note cards, if possible!
- ✓ You will turn in 3 sets of 20 note cards each

Reminders:

- ✓ Every direct quote, paraphrase and summary in your paper MUST have a note card!
- ✓ Make sure that you choose meaningful topics (upper left hand corner). This helps with the transition from note cards to outline! For your topics, think about your TOPIC sentences!
- ✓ All sources must be represented in your note cards. Try not to rely too heavily on one source.
- ✓ When you turn in the final research paper, you will turn in note cards organized in order of appearance in the paper. This means that you will have to create a new note card for each new quote/paragraph/summary that you don't have a note card for.

****Each set of note cards should be turned in in a baggie with your name on the front****

Step 1: Bib Card

After you find your source, BEFORE you start taking notes from it, you must create a bibliography card. Your bib card should contain the properly formatted MLA citation, the source number, and a brief description of how you plan to use the sources (optional). You MUST use MLA 9. See the OWL for help.

Sample Bib Card:

Source #1
Gleick, James. <i>Chaos: Making a New Science</i> . Penguin, 1987.
I plan to use this book in my refutation to help disprove the theory of evolution.

Step 2: Note Cards

After you have made a bibliography card, you can begin making notecards from this source. A notecard should contain a QUOTE, which you should put in quotation marks. The note card should have a TOPIC in the upper left corner (kind of a main idea that the card is about – this should eventually turn into your topic sentence), a source number in the upper right corner (this tells which source the information came from), and the page number in the lower right (if you use a website source, put a W in the lower right corner; if it is from a database it will have a pg. #).

Sample Notecard:

Huck Finn Controversy

Source #4

“The debate surrounding the racial implications of *Huck Finn* and its appropriateness for the secondary school classroom gives rise to myriad considerations. The actual matter and intent of the text are a source of contention. The presence of the word "nigger," the treatment of Jim and blacks in general, the somewhat difficult satiric mode, and the ambiguity of theme give pause to even the most flexible reader.”

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