



## A Tartan Guide to Research in the MLA Format: **Paraphrasing, Summarizing, or Quoting**

Scotia-Glenville Central School District Library Media Center

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### Taking Notes: Paraphrasing, Summarizing, or Quoting

Original Text:

During the colonial war the relations between the colonies and the home government were far from satisfactory. Causes of friction were continually at work to foment trouble. The British authorities frequently interfered in colonial affairs. In the long run, however, the colonists had their own way though only after bitter contests.

**Paraphrasing:** Restating the author's ideas in your own words.

The colonists and the British government did not get along during the Colonial War. The two groups were constantly working against each other. The British government caused trouble for the colonists daily, and the colonists stood up to them (Division of Archives and History 9).

example of in-text citation

**Summarizing:** Write the main idea with supporting details.

The relationship between the colonists and representatives of the British government was filled with turmoil. The causes of the turmoil were many, including the colonists' perceptions that the King's Men meddled in the day to day operations of the colonies. The colonists did not stand for this type of obstruction, and challenged those in authority (Division of Archives and History 9).

example of in-text citation

**Quoting:** Use the author's words exactly. If you omit words, use ellipses (...) to replace the words.

According to the New York State Division of Archives and History, "During the colonial war the relations between the colonies and the home government were far from satisfactory." The colonists and representatives from the British government were continually engaged in conflicts about the daily affairs of the colonists. The government tried to maintain its control over the colonists, but the colonists fought for their rights (Division of Archives and History 9).

example of in-text citation

#### Works Cited for Paraphrasing, Summarizing, and Quoting

Division of Archives and History. The American Revolution in New York. Albany: The University of the State of New York, 1926.