

Research Paper: Notecards

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 8. See the OWL for help.

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|---|
| 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 can contain a QUOTE, which you should put in quotation marks. It could also contain a PARAPHRASE (put a (P) after the note – no quotation marks), or a SUMMARY (put a (S) after the note – no quotation marks). The note card should have a TOPIC in the upper left corner (kind of a main idea that the card is about), 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:

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|--|-----------|
| The Curse of Slavery | Source #2 |
| “This is God’s curse on slavery!—a bitter bitter most accursed thing! — a curse to the master and a curse to the slave!” (Stowe 18). | |

Directions:

- ✓ 3 x 5 lined note cards
- ✓ 1 Bib Card per source **use different color than regular note cards, if possible!
- ✓ 3 sets of 20 note cards

Reminders:

- ✓ Every direct quote, paraphrase and summary in your paper MUST have a note card!
- ✓ All sources should be represented in note cards. To avoid relying too heavily on one source in your paper, try to have a similar number of quotes from each source.
- ✓ Make sure that you choose meaningful topics (upper left hand corner). This helps with the transition from note cards to outline!
- ✓ When you turn in your first set of 20 note cards, you should have bib cards & quotes/paraphrases/summaries from 1/3 of your sources. Your second and third sets of note cards should include the remainder of your sources.
- ✓ When you turn in the final research paper, you will turn in note cards organized in order of appearance in the paper.
 - Which means that you will have to create a new note card for each new quote/paragraphs/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****